A CIRCUMSTANTIAL

JOURNAL

OF THE LONG AND TEDIOUS

BLOCKADE AND SIEGE

OF

GIBRALTAR,

FROM THE

TWELFTH OF SEPTEMBER, 17[illegible]

TO THE

THIRD DAY OF FEBRUARY, 178[illegible]

CONTAINING

An AUTHENTIC ACCOUNT of the most REMARK[illegible]

in which the Enemy's Motions, Works, Approaches, Batteries, &c. ARE PARTICULARLY described.

In a SERIES of LETTERS from the AUTHOR to his BROTHER.

By S. ANCELL, of the 58th REGIMENT.

The Second Edition, with Additions.

Guarded by British Arms ! Gibraltar Rock,
Of France *and* Spain, *sustains the hostile shock*;
See them in vain their Arts and Arms employ,
The vet'ran Fortress proves a second Troy;
Though that the Greeks *by Ten Years Siege could gain,*
Here Bourbon *and* Iberia *strove in vain.*

ENTERED AT STATIONER'S HALL.

LIVERPOOL:
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M,DCC,LXXXV.

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To

LIEUTENANT GEN[illegible]AL

LANCELOT BAUGH,

COLONEL OF HIS

MAJESTY'S 58th, (or *Rutlandshire*) Regiment of Foot,

AND TO

THE OTHER OFFICERS,

WHOSE SHARE IN THE MEMORABLE TRANSACTIONS,

HERE RECORDED,

JUSTLY ENTITLE THEM TO THE PUBLIC ESTEEM;

THESE SHEETS ARE

RESPECTFULLY AND GRATEFULLY INSCRIBED

BY THEIR MOST HUMBLE

AND OBEDIENT SERVANT,

SAMUEL ANCELL.

LIVERPOOL,
FEB. 1785.

TO THE READER.

For any Inaccuracies which may be met with in these Letters, the Reader, it is hoped, will be induced to make allowance if he considers the Duties of the Writer as a Soldier. The circumstances are authentic, and were penned during a long and laborious Siege, amidst the Roar of Guns, Mortars, Howitzers, *& the bursting of* Shells.

Of the generosity of the Public, the most unbounded Proof has been received, even the first Edition was supported and cherished with an unexampled Candour, and the imperfections of the Press, which often has condemned many Publications to oblivion, were silently passed over. Such was the indulgence shewn to a Series of Letters wrote in the heat of Battle, when the short intervals of Duty afforded an opportunity for minuting the important transactions; and from such flattering marks of approbation, together with the great demand for the Work, which surpassed the most sanguine expectation, the Author was encouraged to present the Public with a Second Edition.—Scarce had it been announced to Liverpool *and the adjacent Towns, but several respectable Characters gave it their Patronage, and a most successful and extensive Subscription was received. Impress with the fullest sense of gratitude for the Public favor, the Author respectfully returns his sincere thanks to the numerous Subscribers, and assures them the encouragement which has crowned his feeble labours will ever live in his remembrance.*

An Authentic JOURNAL, &c.

LETTER I.

GIBRALTAR. 1779.

Dear BROTHER,

I SHOULD think myself wanting in affection and gratitude, did I not favour you with the particulars of every thing deserving notice, during the approaching Siege; but circumstanced as I am, and being constantly under arms, or with working parties, many matters of a trifling nature, will escape my knowledge; you will therefore not expect this Journal to be elaborately filled with trivial daily occurrences, but depend upon receiving a full account of every transaction of a public nature; such as the enemy's motions, firings; vessels engaged, taken, escaped, sailed, arrived; batteries erected, destroyed, *&c. &c.*

A council of war being held yesterday, at the *Con-vent*, at which the field officers and naval commanders assisted, it was resolved unanimously, to commence a cannonade on the Spanish works, and accordingly this morning, Sep. 12

1779. Septem. morning, (having previouſly withdrawn our advanced guards from *Bay Side*, and *Forbes's*) we opened our batteries on the enemy, beginning at *Rock Gun* down to the *Mole Head*, employing every gun that could poſſibly bear upon them. An officer's lady, whom curioſity had excited to our batteries, was encouraged to diſcharge the firſt gun, and having taken a lighted match, (with an intrepidity not peculiar to the ſex) *General Eliott*, pronounced in a true heroic ſtyle, "*Britons ſtrike home*," and immediately every battery and angle bellowed with rage, and vomited forth the moſt tremenduous flames.

At the firſt diſcharge our ſhot dropped ſhort, ſo that their advanced guards had time to eſcape to their lines, and their precipitate retreat almoſt occaſioned a general laugh, to view the Dons tumbling one over another, as they fled from the ſhowers of ſhot. When the enemy had reached their lines, we gave more elevation to our guns, and *Fort Barbara* and St. *Philippe* received a heavy cannonade, nor were any part of the Spaniſh lines neglected. As I came up the ſtreet about two hours after, from *Waterport*, (having been the preceding day and night on duty at that poſt) I could not but remark the timidity and fearful apprehenſion pictured in the countenance of the inhabitants, as they minutely expected a furious return from the enemy. The Jews and Jeweſſes exhibited the moſt deſcriptive amazement, accompanied with ſignificant ſhrugs, and eyes raiſed to the ſkies; with nimble ſteps, they took ſhelter at the ſouthward, leaving their houſes and effects,

(except

(except such as were of convenient carriage) exposed to the dangers that must have ensued had the enemy opened upon the town. About four in the afternoon, we began to throw shells * into their forts, and the enemy who had secured some indifferent shelter from our shot, now found themselves most inconveniently annoyed, as we often perceived that their guards and parties were thrown in disorder. 1779. Septem.

A heavy and incessant fire all night. The enemy appear to be in motion, and our expectations lead us to imagine that, about noon, they will return the compliment. The fearful inhabitants, who sheltered at the southward, cannot be persuaded to return, but seem happy in their minds, that they are out of the reach of the foe. 'Twas observed to day, that their forts have received some damage from our firings. 13th

The enemy have not made a return. The uneasiness of the people seems less predominant, and some have ventured to return to their habitations in town. The enemy appear very busy; they are encamped at the foot of *Santa Roque*, to a great number, with some squadrons of horse; they appear to be about 16,000 men, including the *Catalan* troops; they are beginning 14th

* A round piece of Cast Iron, some of 8 and half, 10 and 13 Inches diameter, hollow in the inside, by which they are charged and a fuse drove in at the mouth, of different lengths according to the distances the Shell is intended to be discharged, when the fuse burns to the Powder, the Shell immediately bursts with great fury.

1779. Sept. to carry * faſcines and ‡ gabions to their lines, ſo that it is beyond diſpute they mean to return the fire. When we firſt received the account, (June 21ſt) from Gen. *Mendoza*, commandant at *Santa Roque*, of the commencement of hoſtilities, between their Catholick and Britannick Majeſties, it occaſioned a general rumour in the garriſon; the Governor and principal officers aſſembled on the Grand Parade, and every tongue was employed in delivering their opinions: Our advanced guards and lines were reinforced, and detachments of the piquets ſent to the weakeſt places, as we concluded that the enemy would endeavour to ſurprize the place.

Hoſtilities being thus commenced, General *Eliott*, with the advice of the naval commander, iſſued letters of marque, to ſeveral privateers in this Port, who immediately went out and captured ſome ſmall prizes, with wine, brandy, and other neceſſaries, that probably may be much wanted; but on the 26th of July, Admiral *Don Barcello*, with two line of battle ſhips, two frigates, one xebec and ſeveral galleys, anchored off *Cabritta Point*, to keep the Port blockaded. Our cruizers were under the neceſſity of returning to the bay, and are now laid up, as the enemy are ever watchful of their motions, and our force is too weak to offer an oppoſition. It is currently reported that *Spain's* intention

* Wood cut from trees, and bound in bundles, or hoop ſticks well ſoaked in water.

‡ Pieces of timber bound with iron hoops, like a cask, and the incloſed part when placed on a battery is filled with earth.

tention is, by famine, to oblige us to furrender; you may therefore conclude, that while the enemy remain maſters of the ſtraits of *Gibraltar*, our ſituation will be exceedingly diſagreeable, and we ſhall be greatly neceſſitated for refreſhments.

Our Governor is indefatigable in improving the works, particularly thoſe on the heights of the hill, moſt convenient to annoy the enemy and prevent their approaches. The unthinking part reflect upon him, for being ſparing of the proviſion, and taking part of the merchants ſtores for the king's uſe.

The enemy are very aſſiduous; many working par- 20th.
ties employed, but we cannot form any judgment of what they are doing. To day a ſettee, * that ſeemingly ſtood for the bay, with wind at Weſt, was conducted by Admiral *Barcello's* cruizers to *Algeziras*:— This circumſtance makes us rather uneaſy, as we fear that many more will ſhare the ſame fate. Deſerted, a ſerjeant and a Hanoverian, who notwithſtanding our ſhot eſcaped to the Spaniſh lines.

The enemy are quiet, but continue a ſharp look out 30th.
in the Gut. This day Admiral *Barcello's* ſhip was dreſſed with variety of colours, and a ſalvo fired. He rides moſt magnificently, exulting over a people ſhut up like poultry in a coop. He is ſo vain and ſo poſſeſſed with the proſpect of our capitulating, that he has ordered all officers, under his command, to wear the

* A Market Boat.

1779. Septem. key of the Straits, tyed with a ribbon upon their bosom. We may expect the next month will furnish more important intelligence. Whatever happens, (if I survive) you may depend upon receiving a minute and circumstantial account, from

Dear Brother,

Your's affectionately.

LETTER II.

GIBRALTAR.

DEAR BROTHER,

1779. October. FAR distant from every endearing friend, and the social joys of fellowship, I again take my pen to write to you. Nothing material has happened; the enemy are exceedingly assiduous at work, and we are constantly playing upon their parties; Admiral *Barcello*, with the strictest vigilance, watches the Gut, and some of his cruizers are mostly stretching from *Ceuta* to *Cabritta Point*, to guard the offing. We have not received any supplies or intelligence, nor have we observed a ship, boat, or settee, from East or West, endeavour to make the Port. Every thing is getting at so exorbitant a price, that it is almost impossible for a person of moderate income to purchase what is requisite for sustenance.

9th. This day, a twenty-four pounder was dragged up the face of the Rock to *Midshipman's look-out*, or *Rock Gun*,

Gun, the labour and danger attending it, is not to be conceived, as it was carried over points of rocks to a height of 1357 feet. 1779. October

The ENEMY's FORCE now consists of

At *Algaziras*.

	Guns.	Men.		Guns.	Men.
1 ship	70	700	1 xebec	32	250
1 frigate	36	300	1 do.	28	200

At *Ceuta*.

1 ship	60	600	1 xebec	20	180
1 frigate	26	250	1 do.	14	80
1 xebec	18	200			

Constantly Cruizing.

1 xebec	16	100	6 quarter-galleys	450
4 smaller		240	20 armed boats	300
6 half-galleys		1000		

On our side are at Anchor.

Panther,	60	400	Gibraltar,	12	40
Enterprize,	28	200	Fortune,	10	30
Childers,	14	90			

Last night the enemy were exceſſively hard at work, our batteries poured upon them a liberal diſtribution of ſhells, but notwithſtanding, they completed their operation, and this morning expoſed to our view three new batteries, two of fourteen and one of ſeven guns, conſtructed for playing upon our lines, *Landport* and *Waterport*. 29th.

No proſpect of relief: We begin to think *England* has forgot that ſuch people are in exiſtence. The enemy are quiet, but exceeding watchful, and labour much 30th.

1779. October. much at their approaches; we cannot form any judgment of what they are doing: We keep up a fire upon them.

This day the Peace and Plenty privateer being chaſed to the eaſtward by a frigate and two row gallies, wind at S. E. unfortunately run aſhore between the *Devil's Tower* and *Fort Barbara*. Our batteries commenced a briſk cannonade on the Fort, and diſmounted ſeveral of their guns, but notwithſtanding, the enemy poured into her a prodigious quantity of round and grape ſhot; the boatſwain had his right thigh ſhot off and died ſoon after. The captain finding it impoſſible to get her off the bed of ſand where ſhe had run aground, and grape ſhot coming in a continual ſhower from the enemy's batteries, he and his crew having took out a few things in their hands abandoned her and came in at *Landport*. She was detached by General *Murray* from *Minorca* to view our ſituation, and ſee if any ſupplies were come from *England*. She had taken ſeveral prizes to the eaſtward, and relates that the troops at *Minorca* are in good health, and want nothing but cloathing.

31ſt. *Fort Barbara* kept all night a fire upon the unfortunate privateer, her hull and rigging is ſo greatly ſhattered that ſhe will never be fit for ſea again. The enemy ſeem to be making preparations for a vigorous attack, they have begun forming ſeveral bomb batteries. Our fire is without intermiſſion, which the enemy patiently bear. Several of our howitzer * ſhells fell among

* A piece of Ordnance mounted on a carriage like a cannon.

among their working parties and killed a great number. 1779. October.
General *Eliott* continues to increaſe the fortifications; and working parties from each regiment in the garriſon, are employed in erecting traverſes † in different parts of the ſtreets to ſhelter the troops, and inhabitants, from the enemy's ſhot whenever they open their batteries. We have not received any ſupplies either from *England*, *Portugal*, *Tangier*, *Tetuan*, *or Minorca*, nor has a ſhip appeared but the Peace and Plenty ſtanding for the Bay. The Spaniſh cruizers keep hovering in the Offing. We wait the arrival of a fleet with impatience.

Yours, &c.

LETTER III.

GIBRALTAR, Nov. 1.

DEAR BROTHER,

THE enemy laſt night fired a carcaſs ‡ into the privateer which run aground the 30th ult. and in a few hours ſhe was conſumed. The enemy continue to work, and we continue to fire. Proviſion is getting extravagantly dear and ſcarce: Fiſh and flour are the chief ſupport of the inhabitants. A ſmall ſtring of

† Caſks filled with earth, placed three deep.

‡ An iron caſe with four holes in it, to let out the flames, about the ſize of a bomb ſhell, charged with combuſtibles for ſetting houſes and ſhips on fire, diſcharged out of Mortars.

1779. Novem. of fiſh, (about the ſize of a large ſprat, eight in number) coſts upwards of two ſhillings Engliſh.

This day the bakers ſhut their doors, and delivered their bread thro' a wicket, protected by a guard, as the crowds were ſo preſſing, that they were under the apprehenſion of their houſes being pulled down—the flour they have in hand will not laſt, according to computation, more than two months. *Antonio Smilie* a noted *Genoeſe* baker, aſſured me, he had only 18 barrels of flour to ſerve himſelf, family, and the public. The Governor has ordered them to bake but a ſtipulated quantity daily.

It is really grievous, to ſee the fighting of the people for a morſel of bread, at a price not to be credited by thoſe who never knew hardſhip or their country's ſervice. Men wreſtling, women intreating, and children crying, a jargon of all languages piteouſly pouring forth their complaints. You would think ſenſibility would ſhed a tear; but yet when we are in equal diſtreſs ourſelves, our feelings for others rather ſubſide. Compaſſion is very extenſive, but ſelf-preſervation ſhuts out all condolement.

6th. This day arrived a two-decker from the Weſt, and anchored between *Cabritta* and the battery at *Algaziras*. Several ſmall craft alſo arrived.

Every thing continues quiet—the enemy keep buſily at work at their bomb batteries. Sailed a frigate from *Algaziras* to *Ceuta*.

This morning we obſerved the enemy had recalled their

their working parties from the lines and that they were forming fortifications, extending from fort *St. Philippe* to *Point Negro*, as a defence and cover for their camp; this gives us the alluring hopes that they have some intimation of our fleet being at sea. It would be a glorious sight to see them routed and their camp destroyed. Our batteries are not idle, but keep a well directed fire on their forts and late approaches. 1779. Novem.

The calls of duty prevent my further writing. Excuse all inaccuracies, and believe that I shall always remain

Affectionately yours, &c.

LETTER IV.

GIBRALTAR, Nov. 5.

DEAR BROTHER,

SEVERAL days more elapsed amidst expectation and firing, but no prospect of relief. The merchants are getting money apace, as every article they sell, they charge their own price; glad are every one to make a purchase. O ye winds be propitious! and quickly waft our floating castles to our relief. Haste and save us from hunger, misery and death.

The enemy continue their works on the shore, and have forwarded a battery near the guard-house, on the right of *St. Phillippe*. Our fire from the batteries is rather remiss, as the enemy do not appear very numerous in the lines.

Last

1779. Nov. 3d. Laſt night came in two deſerters from the enemy's * Walloon guards, with their arms, &c. they aſſert that the enemy have 1000 pieces of cannon and mortars in their lines, and only wait an order from the court of *Madrid* to fire, that their magazines are full of powder, and that a reinforcement of French troops are hourly expected. They are lodged at his Excellency's houſe, and I do not doubt but their intelligence will prove advantageous to the operations of our works, as they were conducted by the Quarter-maſter General to *Willis*'s, and the upper batteries (from which a proper view can be taken of the enemy's works) and gave a ſatisfactory deſcription of their near approaches.

4th. Wind N. W. This morning we were led to believe that our fleet was near at hand. The Spaniſh watch-towers hung out ſignal-colours, and the battery at *Cabritta Point* fired a gun for their cruizers to get under weigh. A privateer was ſoon diſcovered ſtanding for the bay, under all the ſail ſhe could croud; the gun boats bore down upon and fired briſkly into her, which ſhe returned as ſpiritedly: two frigates having ſlipped anchor ſtretched acroſs from *Cabritta* to intercept her; having got within long gun ſhot they fired two or three broadſides, the cutter then tacked and ſtood for the *Barbary* ſhore, the frigates followed and ſoon drove to the leeward; ſhe then tacked and ſtood again for the garriſon, when a third frigate and a xebec puſhed out, and likewiſe dropped to leeward, while

* The King of Spain's body Guards.

while the cutter kept her courſe; Admiral *Barcello* then hove to under *Cabritta*, with an intent to keep the windward gage—the bravadoing, bluſtering, and vigilant *Barcello* in the *St. Jean Baptiſte*, of 70 guns, bore down upon her, and having got within half cannon ſhot, poured into her his whole broadſide, which the cutter returned; he then made ſignal for the gun-boats and galleys to board, but when they had rowed pretty near, the hardy crew gave them ſuch a liberal diſtribution, that they were compelled to retire. The Spaniſh Admiral having fallen to leeward, endeavoured to work up again, but not being able, on account of the freſh breeze at N. W. was, to his no ſmall mortification, under the neceſſity of going to the eaſtward, with the remainder of his cruizers. She proves to be the *Buck*, of *Folkſtone*, Captain *Fagg*, in 19 days from *England*. On his dropping anchor at *New Mole*, the numerous ſpectators from the batteries and walls, gave him three cheers, and the General on his landing, paid him the higheſt commendation for his bravery and manœuvres. What news he brings, is not made public, excepting that we are not to expect a fleet yet. 1779. Novem.

I cannot cloſe this account without informing you, that ſome leagues to weſtward he was chaſed by three cutters, and finding they were Engliſh he lay too. They aſked him where he was bound, and anſwering to *Gibraltar*, they perſuaded him to return, adding it was impoſſible to get in ſafe. In a jocular ſtrain he aſked if there was room for a coach and ſix to get in, which being anſwered in the affirmative, he rolled his

1779. Novem. quid two or three times, and with an audible oath, swore he would get in if Belzebub himself gave chase.

24th. This day we got in a settee, with 38 bullocks from *Tangier*; two others were taken by the enemy's gun-boats, one of which had a packet for the garrison; they were kept so long on board before they could get in, that they were nearly perished: their flesh, when killed, was like a jelly, and sold for three rials * and eight quarts per pound.

The wind having shifted, Admiral *Barcello* and his squadron have returned to their station:—they keep a sharp look out from *Cabritta*, being determined, I dare say, not to be beat again in so shameful a manner.

24th. This day four *Portuguese* that were privately dispatched by the Governor to fetch a packet from *Faro*, returned safe; they had a small boat which was carried on camels, over rocks and mountains, being permitted by the *Moors*, and launched it in a creek under *Apes Hill*, and stole over in the night. We flatter ourselves there is good news, as the General and principal officers appeared to be in high spirits.

30th. This morning came in a deserter from the enemy, and this evening another; they both belonged to the Walloon guards, and brought their arms with them:

* A rial is a piece of Spanish coin, Gibraltar currency, eight-pence value, equal to four-pence three farthings sterling. A quin is a Spanish halfpenny, forty of which is given in change for an English Shilling.

the latter was purſued by three horſemen, and would 1779.
have been taken, had not our people been very alert at Nov. 27.
Willis's, by pouring grape † ſhot upon the purſuers.

Dec. 1. The enemy are bringing down great quantities of faſcines to the lines, and are again labouring at their approaches, but do not ſeem diſpoſed to return the fire. Laſt night came in two deſerters from the Walloon guards; they report that the enemy are not to fire, while they can keep the place blockaded, as General *Alvarez* is confident that famine will oblige us to ſurrender. We are certainly greatly diſtreſſed for want of freſh proviſion and vegetables: Salt meat is ſcarce to be purchaſed, which is ſold for two rials, and two and a half per pound. Yeſterday a baker was obliged to ſhut up, not having flour ſufficient for his family for one month. Appearances are rather dreadful; God grant that a fleet may ſoon arrive, or the conſequences are to be feared.

8th. Came in a deſerter from the Walloon guards. He was cloſely purſued by two horſemen, but our batteries made them retreat. He ſays, that the Spaniſh army are much diſtreſſed in camp for freſh water, and that a great many die of the flux, occaſioned by drinking of the ſalt ſprings.

14th. This morning we perceived two men run out of the Spaniſh lines, and preſently after two horſemen followed, and having overtaken the former, they killed

† Shot of a pound and a half and two pound weight, a number of them put in a tin caſe and fired.

1779 one on the ſpot, and ſecured the other, notwithſtanding
Dec. our fire:—Laſt night deſerted two *Hanoverians* of *De la Motte's* regiment; they eſcaped to the enemy from *Europa Advance Guard*, by means of a rope ladder, which was accidentally left by the King's workmen.

15th. This morning the enemy executed the deſerter they took yeſterday; all their regiments were under arms.

19th. Garriſon orders this day were as follow:

"No gun to be fired from any of the batteries at the enemy's ſhips, when the diſtance requires more than ſix degrees elevation, unleſs ſuch ſhips are engaging or in chaſe. Any Captain of the royal artillery, who may happen to be preſent on ſuch occaſions, will give his advice in the management of the guns, which the officers commanding guards will be juſtified in following."

21ſt. Laſt night ſailed the *Buck* privateer, for *Mahon*, wind S. W.

27th. This day the enemy began a fire upon our outward works; they obliged the garriſon gardeners, who work on the iſthmus or neck of land (termed the neutral ground) to retire. Several *Genoeſe* fiſhermen who were dragging nets at the ſea ſide, were alſo under the neceſſity of retreating, leaving their nets, lines and tackle, on the beach; a twenty-ſix pound ſhot fell at the northermoſt angle of (our) *Prince's lines*; the centinel narrowly eſcaped. The enemy appear very buſy—their approaches are in great forwardneſs, but are all maſk'd; their bomb batteries appear to have no ordnance

nance mounted, nor has it been observed that any num- 1779.
ber of men have been employed there for some time Dec. 28.
past. We conjecture that this day is only a preface, or introduction to the grand display, and that the long boasted exhibitions are ready for performance.

The enemy last night destroyed great part of our gardens, and, unbecoming the character of warriors, they meanly stole the nets, lines, &c. that our fishermen left when they made their retreat yesterday. Came in a small boat from *Tangier*, with goats, fowls, and eggs: she fortunately ran in under cover of the night. The goats sold for ten * cobbs per head; fowls three † dollars six rials per couple; eggs, six rials per dozen. Also came in three deserters from the Walloon guards; it is currently reported that the intelligence they bring is not altogether favourable to our wishes. God grant that a fleet may shortly arrive, and that we may be enabled to give the enemy a British reception whenever they attack our walls.

The following lines on the approaching Siege, probably will not be unacceptable to you.

The hostile face of war with rage array'd,
And threat'ning danger mix the black parade;
Iberia arms, and lifts the glitt'ring spear,
And thro' a sea of blood prepares to steer;
The British lion views her dire designs,
While secresy *Britannia's* council binds;
Nor dreads their force, nor shakes at war's alarms,
Nor quakes at cannon, or impetuous storms;
Their hostile preparations seem to wear;
And speak their object to be *Gibraltar*. With

* A Spanish Dollar, value four shillings and eight-pence sterling, at Gibraltar is called a Dollar and a half, or 12 rials, but is of no more value.

† Eight rials each, Gibraltar currency.

With martial courage we our foes defy,
For *George* we live, and in his cause we'll die!
Nor fear we their attack upon this place,
For *Elliott* will the foe courageous face.
The Dons of proud *Iberia* he will tame,
And add new lustre to his country's fame.

Ye Dons go arm——ye Monsieurs them assist,
The British vet'rans will your pow'r resist;
Your efforts join'd to take this stubborn rock,
Will cause a scene that will your courage shock!
Your boasting heroes with a joy elate,
Will from our roaring cannon meet their fate:
The mighty ocean will be ting'd with blood,
And carcasses lie floating on the flood!
For ev'ry Briton chearfully will fight.
And bleed and die for *Albion's* injur'd right

I

The enemy are quiet, but keep constantly at work; their parties are very numerous, but we cannot make them desist; they have broken down all their stone guard-houses, and seem to be converting them into works of annoyance. We may expect that the ensuing year will be fertile with intelligence, and that we shall be able to give a more descriptive account of their approaches.

It is really vexing and mortifying to view the Spanish hills and heights, covered with cattle, while we can scarce procure a piece of salt beef, and that at a price, which when told, carries with it the face of improbability. I trust that God, in his infinite goodness, will relieve us from the impending famine, that hourly

hourly awaits us, and reſtore us to the nouriſhing ne- 1779.
ceſſaries of life. Dec. 30.

I am, Dear Brother,

Affectionately, your's, &c.

LETTER V.

GIBRALTAR, 1780.
Jan. 7.

DEAR BROTHER,

I AGAIN take the pen to write, though I aſſure you, our moſt ſanguine hopes ſeem entirely loſt. Laſt night came in two deſerters of the Walloon Guards——from the accounts they bring, we expect to have many more months to ſuffer—they ſay that the Spaniards engaged our fleet off *Cape Finiſterre*, the Engliſh were defeated, and a great many captured. Yeſterday arrived ſome freſh troops in their camp, this afternoon, a ſmall boat that made a paſs for the garriſon, was taken off *Calvilla Point*; it is not improbable that ſhe was detached with intelligence for this place, as ſhe did not appear to be deeply laden.

A Neapolitan polacre, laden with barley, having 31.
come within the reach of *Europa* guns, we diſcharged a few ſhot at her, and obliged her to come in; ſhe will afford us ſome relief:——Admiral *Barcello* ſeemed to be very uneaſy at her getting in, for he made a ſignal immediately for a frigate and a ſmaller to cruiſe to the eaſtward—they paſs'd by within long gun ſhot of the garriſon.

Several

1780. Jan. 11. Several random ſhot from the enemy, but no material damage done; they ſeem to have a great inclination to begin the work.—We keep a moderate fire upon their parties and approaches.

12th The enemy ſtill continue to fire occaſionally: a ſhot ſtruck the parapet of the *Old Mole*—a 26-pound ſhot (the firſt fired into the garriſon) went through the roof of Mr. *Quartin's* houſe, and drove a ſplinter into a lady's heel, who was walking in the ſtreet;—another went through a centry-box in *Landport* covered way: a mule belonging to the waggons who go to the *Devil's Tower* to take in ſtone, was lamed by their fire; and the enemy, in an unprecedented manner, inhumanly fired at a clergyman performing the ceremony over the body of a deceaſed ſoldier.

13th This day the field officers commanding corps aſſembled at Colonel *Roſs*'s quarters, to take into conſideration the preſent ſituation of the garriſon proviſion; when it was ordered, that the ſoldiers ration ſhould be ſhortened, viz. half-pound beef, quarter-pound pork, and one pint peaſe per week, deducted from each man's allowance.

Our ſituation every day appears more alarming, there being a ſcarcity of almoſt every thing in the garriſon—fire-wood 2 cobb per hundred; flour five rials per pound; no freſh meat except an old cow, or worn-out ox, (only one perhaps killed in a month) which is ſold at

at four and half or five rials per pound; fowls twenty to twenty-four rials each; a gooſe ten dollars; a turkey twenty dollars; eggs a cobb the dozen; and every other neceſſary in proportion. 1780. Jan.

This morning a ſoldier deſerted from the back of the rock, where he was with a party cutting buſhes. He made an excuſe that he had dropped the key of his box, and being indulged to ſearch for it, he obſerved the party buſy, and took his rout by the eaſtern ſhore—— we fired many ſhot at him, but all ineffectual. 15th.

This afternoon, wind S. W. an Engliſh brig appeared in the offing; ſhe was chaſed by a xebec and ſeveral gallies, but fortunately got ſafe into *New Mole*: She brings the joyful and happy tidings of a fine fleet being within twenty-four hours ſail of the garriſon, having parted with them five days before, in a gale of wind, off *Cape Finiſter*. Three officers of the artillery, (bound for *Minorca*) who came paſſengers in her, were on our Grand Parade this evening, receiving congratulations, and giving information.

You cannot, dear Brother, picture to yourſelf the joy of the garriſon, nor can the moſt energetic language deſcribe it, looking upon ourſelves as people reprived from death, or conſequences worſe——true Britiſh teſtimonials exhibited among the ſoldiery, over their bottle and glaſs, and the moſt tender and ſympathetic emotions among the long diſtreſſed and ſuffering inhabitants. Sordid avarice and exorbitancy, I truſt, will now be forgot, and thoſe who made a trade of the diſtreſſes of their fellow brethren, will not enjoy with

1780. January. tranquility of mind, their ill-got gains. I have not time to write more, the present calls of duty oblige me to conclude, subscribing myself,

Your affectionate Brother.

LETTER VI.

GIBRALTAR.

DEAR BROTHER,

Jan. 16. A GROUP of transporting ideas employ my mind, and whilst I am reflecting on the prospect of relief, I am equally captivated with the thoughts of information from you, from whom I have not received the least account these many months. The garrison are all on the wing:—the sound of the fleet is all that is to be heard, and every rock and hill re-echoes the blissful tidings. This morning flour sold for six-pence per pound, which was some time past two shillings, and a great favour to obtain it at that price; the shops that were shut up are now opened, and adorned with bread, biscuit, rusk, &c. The garrison appears in an entire state of transformation, and the people are so busy purchasing eatables, that it brings to my remembrance the festive fairs in England.——Every perspective is employed, and spy-glasses are mounted like cannon on the walls, directed towards the gut—various reports are circulating: The enemy have hung out signal colours from the watch towers; not a ship nor

cruizer

cruizer on the oppoſite ſide attempts to move. I be- 1780. January.
lieve the ſcene is changed, without as well as within the walls. Poor *Barcello* muſt feel, with inexpreſſible pangs, this ſudden ſtroke that robs him of all promis'd honors, that ſhuts him and his vigilant cruizers up at *Algaziras*, and compells them to view with madden'd rage, the Britiſh enſigns that bid defiance to *Andaluſia's* ſhore.

Came in a deſerter from the Wallon guards.—Intelligence not publicly known.

Laſt night arrived (unmoleſted) a brig laden with 17th.
flour; ſhe left the Britiſh convoy two days ſince, and brings word, that they have taken a Spaniſh convoy of one ſhip of the line, five frigates, and twenty-four ſail of tranſports, bound from *Bilboa* to *Cadiz*.—We hourly wait their arrival. Stopped our ration according to the order of the 13th inſtant.

This morning came in the *Appollo* frigate. She 18th.
brings the intelligence that ſeveral Spaniſh men of war got under ſail from *Cadiz*, to engage our fleet, that the Britiſh were victorious, and that the enemy had one ſhip ſunk, one blown up, one ſtranded, and four captured, *Glorious news!*—Received half a pint of rice in lieu of peaſe.

Laſt night two Engliſh men of war arrived, and 19th.
confirm the above engagement. About ſix this morning came in, the *Phœnix*, a Spaniſh 80 gun ſhip, being the one the Admiral commanded. She loſt her main-top-maſt, and other rigging in the engagement: Admiral

1780. January miral *Don Langara* who commanded the ſquadron, received a wound in his groin. The Britiſh fleet having ſtood too near to the *Barbary* ſhore, over-ſhot the bay, and drove to eaſtward in the night, and it is probable it will be two or three days before they can work up. The Spaniſh Admiral came aſhore this evening, and owing to his wound was carried in a ſedan chair. Every guard he paſſed paid him the honour due to his rank.

21ſt. Wind E. Came in three Spaniſh 70 gun ſhips, one a Commodore, alſo the *Guipoſcoana* a 64, taken with the *Bilboa* convoy, and great part of our fleet; they are ſo thick I cannot number them with any preciſion. About eleven this forenoon came in the *Prince George*, Admiral *Digby*, with *Prince William Henry* on board. Admirals *Rodney* and *Roſs* are ſtanding for the rock. Our ſhipping have taken to the eaſtward two xebecs, and a great many ſettees bound for the camp of *St. Roque*. *Prince William Henry* landed, accompanied by the Admiral; the Governor received them with the warmeſt encomiums, and the garriſon and ſhipping performed a ſalute.

The Spaniſh ſquadron, commanded by Admiral *Don Juan de Langara, Gefe de Eſquadra*, which Admiral *Rodney* fell in with off Cape *St. Mary's*, are as follow:

Phœnix,	80 guns.	Taken and brought in here.
Diligente,	70 do.	
Monarca,	70 do.	
Princeſſa,	70 do.	
St. Domingo,	70 do.	blown up.
St. Eugenio,	70 do.	taken then abandoned.
St. Julian,	70 do.	and ſtranded.

St. Lorenzo,

St. Lorenzo,	70 do.	Escaped.	1780. January
St. Auguſtin,	70 do.		
Santa Roſalia,	26 do.		
Santa Cecilia,	28 do.		

Laſt night about eleven o'clock, the *Terrible* man of war, and four other ſhips, being drove by the rapidity of the current, near the enemy's forts *Philipe* and *Negra*, they beat to arms in their camp and made a poſition of defence; they fired 157 ſhot and 7 ſhells, but did no other damage than killing a Spaniſh priſoner on board the *Terrible*. This day, the Spaniſh Commodore landed. 22d.

Wind W. Took a ſettee going to *Ceuta*. 23d.

This day the troops received their beef and pork, ſtopped laſt week. All hands at work unloading the ſhipping—Several cranes have been erected from *Southport* to the *New-Mole*. 24th.

The enemy this morning fired two ſhot towards the garriſon, one grazed *North-Line-Wall* guardhouſe. About eight this morning, a corporal and five private men of the Walloons who made a puſh for the garriſon, were purſued by a party of horſe and foot, the corporal was taken, two of the men they knocked down and run through with their bayonets, they afterwards beat them with the butts of their firelocks, and ſlaſhed them with their ſwords; one of them they carried off in triumph. A ſhot from the garriſon ſtruck one of their horſes in the hind leg, in their retreat, who remained on the iſthmus or neck of land during the day; three eſcaped the maſſacre, owing to the activity 25th.

of

1780, January. of their heels, and the one whom they left on the ſands, a party of our people brought in, ſo miſerably hacked that he was ſhocking to behold;—two *Geneeſe* people buried him this afternoon, outſide of *Forbes's Gate*. Before that our batteries could afford the deſerters any aſſiſtance, the purſuers had got under the direction of our cannon, and our muſquetry was to very little purpoſe employed. Arrived from the Eaſt this morning, Admiral Sir *George Bridges Rodney*, and ſeveral other ſhips. This day we received ſeveral flags of truce, reſpecting the exchange of priſoners.

26th. This morning we perceived the Spaniſh infantry under arms, ſoon after obſerved a gibbet erected, and a criminal executed. It is beyond diſpute that the unhappy ſufferer, is the corporal they took yeſterday on the iſthmus. This afternoon the *Fortune* cutter, under a flag of truce, conveyed the ſick and wounded priſoners to the *Orange Grove*, where the enemy received them. Came in and anchored in the Bay, Admiral *Lockhart Roſs*, with ſome ſettee prizes taken to the eaſtward.

This morning arrived from *Tangier*, a ſmall boat with lemons and oranges;—a moſt uſeful article, as they are very ſalutary in the cure of the ſcurvy. Came in a Spaniſh brig:—Four Spaniſh line of battle ſhips and a 64 are at anchor in the Bay, adorned with the Britiſh enſigns.

Don Bartello, no doubt, is fired with rage at ſo unexpected an alteration, eſpecially to view the ſhipping intended to prevent ſuccours being thrown in here, now

in

in a ſituation of being employed againſt him. How contemptible muſt he appear at *Algaziras*, after all his pomp and parade, to be ſhut up and forced to yield the ſovereignty of the bay, where his heavy cannon ſo awfully rattled along the ſhore. 1780. January

Arrived a boat from *Tangier*, with a few dozen of fowls. Alſo a ſettee with bullocks and other refreſhments from *Tetuan*. One of our frigates cruizing in the Offing, captured a ſettee bound for the camp. 28th

This forenoon landed from the ſhips of war, the ſecond battalion of the 73d regiment of foot, under the command of Lieutenant-Colonel *George M'Kenzie*: They were under orders for *Minorca*, but our Governor, with the advice of the Admirals, and Field Officers, has detained them here. This afternoon wind S. W. Commodore *Elliott* in the *Edgar*, and a frigate gave chaſe to a ſhip off *Cabritta*, under *Dutch* colours; which as ſoon as ſhe perceived, ſhe tacked and ſtood for the land; *Elliott* bore down upon her, and quickly got within long gun-ſhot, when ſhe hoiſted *Spaniſh* colours, and run aſhore under *Cabritta*: A briſk fire enſued on both ſides, in which the battery at that place took a part, but Admiral *Rodney* perceiving their ſituation rather dangerous, hoiſted a ſignal for them to return. It is imagined that ſhe was detached with inſtructions to *Don Barcello*. 29th.

The Spaniſh boats were yeſterday afternoon employed in endeavouring to get the ſhip off, which they did not effect till this morning's tide. She muſt be greatly damaged, as it is a rocky ſhore where ſhe ran aground: 30th.

1780. January ground: They have warped her in among the reſt of the laid-up ſhipping at *Algaziras*. Early this morning came in three deſerters from the Walloon Guards, they were naked having ſwam from the foot of the fort *St. Phillipe*. They report that the Spaniſh General holds a poſition of defence every night, as he expects our ſhipping will fire upon their camp, before they leave the bay. The enemy have mounted artillery in their fourteen and ſeven gun batteries, and ſeem to have prepared to act on the defenſive at their forts—We keep a moderate fire upon them, and often put their Guards in diſorder. Every one is amazed that the enemy do not return it, for certainly they can have no hope of taking this place by famine, ſince we have received ſupplies from *England*, or ſhould they ſtill entertain that idea, I hope a few ſhips of the line will be ſtationed here to keep open a communication between *Tangier* and the Garriſon.

I am, dear Brother,

Yours, &c.

LETTER VII.

GIBRALTAR,

DEAR BROTHER,

February THE ſtores and proviſions being almoſt landed, the fleet are preparing for ſea, and it is confidently reported, that none of the ſhips of the line will be left here to guard the bay; we may therefore conclude that in a ſhort time, we ſhall experience a

ſituation

situation equally as distressing as that which we have lately been relieved from; for while the enemy commands a superior force in the bay, the nourishing supplies which would be forwarded from *Tangier* and *Tetuan*, will be cut off: A few days will leave our situation no mystery. 1780. February

This day all the Spanish deserters embarked on board the men of war, on their passage to *England*. Sailed the *Childers* sloop, with dispatches. 3d.

Came in at *Landport*, two private men and a drummer, belonging to the enemy's Walloon Guards; they assert, that the Spanish General has no orders to fire, but on the defensive, and that Admiral *Don Barcello* has received advice from *Madrid*, to renew the blockade, as soon as the British fleet departs, at which time he is to be reinforced with two ships of the line and several frigates. 5th.

Came in a deserter from the Walloon guards. 10th.

This forenoon wind E. N. E. Admiral *Rodney* made signal to weigh: About twelve o'clock, the men of war, including the five *Spanish*, viz. *Phœnix*, *Diligente*, *Monarca*, *Princessa*, *Guiposcoana*, and convoy, got under sail, on board which many families had embarked, who were happy to escape the difficulties of the place: —The battery at *Cabritta*, fired a gun to alarm the coast, which was returned at *Ceuta*, as our shipping stood towards that place in order to clear the land; in the evening they were all out of sight, but the enemy continued to fire alarm guns, and threw a great number of rockets from the watch towers. 13th.

1780. Feb. 24. The *Edgar*, under the command of Commodore *Elliott*, the *Panther* of 64 guns, the *Enterprize* and *Porcupine* frigates; *Gibraltar* and *Fortune* sloops, remain here. At *Algaziras* are at anchor, one ship of 70 guns, one ditto 50, one frigate, and a few xebecs. We certainly are now able to oppose our enemy on the opposite side. Some of the cruizers at *Algaziras* have hauled out, and proceeded to the *Orange Grove*.

Yesterday Admiral *Langara*, and the other officers of his fleet, were permitted to pass to *Spain* on parole.

25th. Admiral *Barcello* this morning hauled out to the left of the battery at *Algaziras*—he appears to be very busy in getting up his yards and top-masts; some of his galleys passed to the westward. On the land side a few working parties have again made their appearance.

27th Nothing material has happened these many days, excepting that the Spanish horse and infantry, have been performing their evolutions, twice every day: It is computed their number fit for actual service is about 17 or 18,000. Last night came in a small boat with lemons and oranges from *Tangier*. The enemy's gunboats chased her under *Europa*, which occasioned a few shot to be discharged from that post.

This day arrived at *Algaziras*, from the westward, four line of battle ships, two frigates and one xebec.

28th Wind W. Arrived at *Algaziras*, a frigate and a xebec from the westward—The frigate saluted Admiral *Barcello*, but no return was made. It appears as if they intended to renew the blockade, and again distress us.

This

This morning alarm ſignals were made at *Ceuta*, of the appearance of an enemy to the eaſtward. Wind N. N. E. Admiral *Barcello* immediately looſed his fore-top-ſails, as a ſignal to weigh: A frigate, xebec, and two galleys, made ready, and ſtretched acroſs for *Ceuta*: ſoon after he followed, but had not quite cleared *Europa*, when the cruizers diſcovered the ſuppoſed prey to be a xebec. The wind having ſhifted to the S. E. this evening, the enemy have again anchored at their look-out on the oppoſite ſide. Several galleys, and other inſect cruizers that ſtole away, during the continuance of our fleet, have ventured to return. 1780. Mar. 9

This day our cartel, under flag of truce received from *Spain*, 390 Britiſh priſoners of war. They report that *Spain* is determined to have the place, let the conſequence be what it will, and that a large body of *French* troops are really embarked for the camp. 12th.

This morning the enemy appeared very buſy at work: Our batteries kept ſhowering a conſtant ſupply of ſmall ſhells upon them, ſo that they were compelled to deſiſt. 15th.

Laſt night a deſerter came in from the Walloon guards; he gives an account that the enemy ſuffered conſiderably from our fire yeſterday. One ſhell killed and wounded 25 perſons. 16th.

The Spaniſh ſquadron this morning were decorated with variety of colours; in the afternoon their troops in camp were arranged in three lines; the battery at *Fort Negro*, made a triple ſalvo of 12 guns each time, which was anſwered as often by a running fire from the army: The batteries and ſhipping at *Algaziras* performed the ſame. 19th.

1780. March. A neutral veſſel was brought in by the *Spaniſh* cruizers for examination, Admiral *Barcello* being determined not to let a ſhip paſs unnoticed. For theſe three days we have not fired much, being buſily employed in ſtrengthening our works, particularly thoſe adjoining the iſthmus.

25th. Wind W. This day arrived ſeveral polacres and ſettees at the *Orange Grove*—We conjecture they are laden with ſtores for the camp.

29th. At day break this morning, a ſignal-gun was fired from a xebec near the point; ſeveral armed cruizers got under ſail, and formed a line from the Point to *Ape's Hill*, where after firing a ſhot they captured a ſettee, and brought her in with her colours reverſed. It is imagined ſhe had cattle on board for the garriſon, which is very much wanted, as very little freſh meat can be purchaſed. Our proviſion is chiefly ſalt beef and pork, and that we uſe ſparingly, not knowing when we may receive another ſupply. Vegetables are ſcarce and dear, and what are ſold, are no better than the rubbiſh of a dunghill in *England*. Our barren rock yields but little, but as neceſſity generally ſtrikes out a remedy, many have begun to endeavour to convert the ſolid parts of the rock into kitchen gardens, which ſome have effected by raiſing walls one height above another, and filling the encloſed with earth. It will appear a ſcene of enchantment to Admiral *Barcello*, when he beholds the face of the dry and barren rock, in a ſtate of vegetation.

I am,

Dear Brother,

Yours, &c.

LETTER VIII.

GIBRALTAR. 1780. April.

DEAR BROTHER,

THE enemy are ſtill forwarding their approaches, and on our part, I can affirm there is no deficiency. The Spaniards muſt ſuſtain conſiderable loſſes in their operations, as we ſeldom let them reſt. Our fire, of late, does not prevent them working, but judge what muſt be their ſufferings, when we are hourly pouring upon their parties, great quantities of ſhells and grape ſhot.

The ſufferings of the Britiſh troops, at preſent, is from heavy duty, and the ſcarcity of proviſion, but we may expect in a ſhort time another ſcene to be exhibited; when the enemy have compleated their approaches, I imagine they will retaliate, but we are prepared to withſtand their efforts, and while a round of ball and powder is left, *King George's* name will be ſounded from our cannon.

Laſt night a boat was diſpatched to *Barbary*, to learn if there was a packet, or any intelligence from *England*:——Several cruizers were diſcovered in the Gut this morning, ſo that many conclude ſhe was taken. 7th.

This morning about three o'clock, came in ſafe, the boat that was ſent to *Barbary*. She brought a packet to the General, but not any intelligence has tranſpired. The patron of the boat has refuſed to anſwer any particular queſtions. 10th.

Laſt

1780. April 24. Laſt night wind W. arrived the *Hyena* frigate, in 13 days from *England*: She exchanged ſeveral ſhot in the Gut with the enemy's xebecs. Admiral *Barcello*, this morning (the wind having ſhifted) detached a frigate to the W. where ſhe keeps tacking and hovering in the Gut.

30th. Wind E. This morning about nine o'clock, the *Edgar* and *Hyena*, got under way ſuddenly, and ſtood to the weſtward; the *Spaniſh* rowers immediately ſpread the alarm, and Admiral *Barcello*, with three ſhips of the line hove out, but to his no ſmall mortification, could not weather *Cabritta*, until our ſhipping were out of ſight, he being obliged to make ſeveral tacks in the Bay, owing to the ſtiff breeze. They ſteered to the Weſt curſing their inauſpicious ſtars.

This day *Don Barcello* and his ſquadron, returned to their former anchorage, vowing revenge on *St. Antonio*, if he deceived them any more.

May 27th. Laſt night came in a ſchooner, from *Malaga*, with lemons and oranges: They are natives of *Spain*, but run in here, knowing it to be a good market.

28th. Some time in the courſe of the night the ſchooner ſlipped out, unperceived by the enemy, it being very thick and hazy.

30th. Came in a boat from *Tetuan*, with 12 dozen of fowls: They had ſeveral cocks on board, which they were forced to kill, fearing their crowing might alarm the *Spaniſh* cruizers, that cover the Bay.

May 1. Laſt night about ten o'clock, a fire broke out in the enemy's

enemy's camp, which raged with great rapidity, for upwards of two hours. 1780. May.

Wind E. This day arrived a convoy from the eaſtward at *Algaziras* and *Orange Grove*. It has been obſerved that many carts are employed in carrying ſhot and ſhells from the Pier to the *Artillery Park*, where they are ſcaling their cannon; their troops appear very buſy, and their motions indicate a ſpeedy attack. 3d.

The inhabitants are beginning to erect ſheds at the ſouthward, near *Mount Pleaſant*, as a retreat, whenever the enemy open upon us, which many are of opinion will not be long.

Came in a boat from *Tangier*, with lemons, fowls, leather and *Barbary* pumps. The great demand in this place for ſhoes, renders leather an article of great emolument. 4th.

This afternoon the *Spaniſh* army were arranged in two diviſions, and about four o'clock, began a ſham fight, ſimilar to an attack on the garriſon, as one diviſion took poſt on the riſing ground under the *Queen's* chair, (ſuppoſed to be the *Engliſh*) while the other diviſion in the valley on the common, endeavoured to diſlodge the troops above, and take poſſeſſion of their intrenchments: The fire was warmly returned by thoſe from the height, and briſkly ſupported on both ſides for three hours, when the *Engliſh* forces were entirely routed;—they had ſeveral field pieces, and ſome cannon with them. I aſſure you, that the fight afforded great entertainment, and the army diſplayed ſome merit in their performance. They have been practiſing 6th.

ſeveral

1780. May. several days, but none worthy of remark but this. It is evident they mean to familiarize their troops in the nature of an attack, so that they may be more expert in a regular assault.

7th. This day a cartel from *Spain*, brought over between forty and fifty British prisoners of war: they confidently assert that fourteen sail of the line, several frigates, and a number of transports with troops, were hourly expected to sail from *Cadiz*, but their destination was only a matter of opinion.

8th. Last night four deserters, who endeavoured to reach the garrison, only one escaped safe; three were either taken or shot by the *Spanish* horse patroles—He is one of the Walloons, and says, that the *Spanish* General has received advice from *Madrid*, to fire, whenever he thinks proper; fifty-two large mortars are mounted in their lines, with an incredible number of cannon. From this intelligence, we may conclude, that a bombardment will shortly take place.

This day a soldier was executed for theft. He died with great contrition and penitence, seemingly sensible of his situation and wickedness.

9th. This day the *Spaniards* executed two men, we suppose them to be those whom they took on the night of the 7th instant.

11th. This day came in a deserter from *Spain*—he is a native of the place, and the first that we have received since the commencement of hostilities.

Last

Laſt night came in a boat from *Tangier*, with fowls, pidgeons, and leather——The enemy chaſed her under the guns. 1780. May 12.

This day a *Swediſh* ſhip having approached *Europa*, we fired a ſhot, to oblige her to come in; but to our diſappointment found her cargo to conſiſt of ſalt only. 13th.

This morning the *Swed* ſailed from here, but the *Spaniſh* cruizers afterwards brought her into *Algeziras*, for examination.

A xebec arrived at *Algeziras* from the eaſtward, towing two large gun-boats.

This morning two boats arrived from *Tangier*, with fowls and lemons; they bring word, that the *Fly* packet-boat, was on the night of the 17th inſt. cut out of that port, by the *Spaniards*. It appears from this circumſtance, that the *Moors* are inclined to favour the *Spaniſh* cauſe, or otherwiſe would not have ſuffered an act of this nature, to be committed under the walls of their town. 18th.

Arrived this day from the Weſt, a ſchooner laden with leather, butter and oil. Nothing extraordinary in the enemy's camp. Our garriſon are beginning to be very ſickly—the ſmall pox rages with great violence, and carries 18 or 20 per week, but moſtly children. The enemy ſeem buſy at *Algeziras*; a great many boats are every day employed from the *Orange Grove* to that place, but we cannot obſerve any thing particular they are doing. 20th.

I am, yours, &c.

LETTER VI.

GIBRALTAR.

DEAR BROTHER,

1782. June 11. WE ſtill continue our cannonade on the enemy; they are conſtantly bringing down ſtores and ammunition to their lines, and have made great improvement in their approaches. 'Tis ſomewhat ſtrange, notwithſtanding the ſlaughter our ſhot and ſhells occaſions among them that they are not diſpoſed to retaliate the compliment.

Wind W. arrived a ſettee from *Tangier* with 11 bullocks, 13 ſheep, 24 dozen fowls, with a quantity of leather, eggs and lemons. She got in unobſerved by the enemy, the wind being exceſſive freſh, had forced the *Spaniſh* cruizers into *Algeziras*.

4th. Came in two boats with a few fowls from *Tetuan*.

5th. Laſt night a ſoldier deſerted from the *Main-head* guard. He had not long been planted centry, when he left his firelock in the box, and took his paſſage (naked) in the water.

6th. Came in a boat with 15 ſheep from *Tangier*. The Patron relates, that an Engliſh brig arrived in that port, in 18 days from *Portſmouth*, laden with butter, porter, and flour, and that the *Spaniſh* cruizers were watching her cloſely.

7th. About one this morning, wind N. W. a ſhip was diſcovered

* The Maſter, called Patron by the Spaniards.

discovered standing for the *New Mole*; the *Enterprize* hailed her, upon which she answered, "A provision ship from *England*;" the frigate hailed again, and suspecting that she was not a friend, immediately hoisted the signal of an enemy's approach; soon after several more appeared keeping the same course:—The *Enterprize* discharged a shot at the first, and the enemy finding they were discovered, took to their boats, and set them on fire, one after another, being nine in number; The wind now dropped, and a dead calm ensued; the garrison and shipping kept a brisk fire on the boats as they retreated, from which they must have suffered considerably, as they brought the first almost into the New Mole. Our seamen, in an undaunted and gallant manner, rowed along side of the flaming devourers, and having grappled to their burning sides, towed them quietly to the back of the New Mole, among the clefts of the rock, where they burnt to the water's edge, before a number of spectators from our walls, who were returning Almighty God thanks for the great deliverance; for had the wind continued to blow fresh, our shipping must have been inevitably consumed. Three of the fire-ships drove to the eastward, two dropped very near the *Panther*, in *Rosia Bay*, where she lay at anchor, and the others to *Europa* and *Little Bay*. They burned with surprising fierceness for three hours; the masts of some stood to the very last, and appeared as if under sail: The largest was a 40 gun ship, and burnt till this afternoon. The garrison drums beat to arms, and the soldiery immediately repaired to their stations. The terrified inhabitants, together with the women and children, were wringing 1780. June 7th

1780. June 1. their hands, weeping with the most bitter and inexpressible anguish, expecting every minute a bombardment from the land side: Such a scene would pierce the most insensible heart, to hear their piteous lamentations.—During the transaction, the Rock appeared as bright as if Aurora had just arisen, to bless the creation with her enlivening rays; the stars reclined their head, and the skies and sea, were lost to perception, amidst the bright illumination.

Admiral *Barcello*, with his squadron, was under sail, flattering himself, that if our shipping were not burnt, they would cut their cables and push to sea; but his stratagems were frustrated, and this morning he returned to his old station, to study more mischief.

Some time in the night came in a boat from *Tangier*, with fowls and leather. It was fortunate she was not fired at from the garrison, as she might reasonably have been suspected for a *Spaniard*.

N. B. There was twenty sail of shipping in the *New Mole*, at the time the fireships were sent over.

5th. This morning came in a privateer and a large settee from *Portugal*, with sheep, wine, oil and lemons. This must be an additional mortification to *Don Barcello*, notwithstanding the vigilance of his numerous cruizers to distress us, that we are so seasonably favoured by providence.

7th. Arrived with a fine breeze at W. two boats from *Barbary*—they brought 48 sheep and a few fowls. A gun was fired from one of the enemy's galleys, but too late to prevent their getting in.

Last

Last night a man on duty, at the batteries on the hill, fell from a precipice of the Rock, and was fransed to pieces. It is supposed his intention was to desert. June 18.

Last night arrived a settee from *Tangier*, with 38 bullocks and 80 sheep; also a small boat with oil. These frequent supplies will enable the garrison to sustain their situation with the utmost spirit. Beef is sold for three rials, and mutton four rials per pound. 13th.

The enemy's line of battle ships and frigates sailed from *Algaziras* to the East. Admiral *Barcello* has hoisted his flag on board a xebec—We cannot conjecture what this manœuvre will demonstrate. 14th.

Last night sailed from the *New Mole*, a 20 gun ship for *England*, with dispatches. Wind N. E. Came in a small settee from the eastward, with fruit. 15th.

Arrived in the night from *Algaziras*, a boat with six deserters belonging to the naval and marine service of the enemy:——They say that our opponents are heartily tired of their situation. 18th.

Wind W. This day arrived at *Algaziras*, a frigate and three large xebecs, accompanied by a *Moorish* corsair. 19th.

Came in a small boat, with a few sheeps and fowls. 20th.

Last night our batteries kept a hot and incessant fire upon the enemy's working parties; they laboured uncommonly hard at their approaches, as we heard the clink of their hammers during the whole course of the night. We did not observe any additional work this 22d.

morning

27th June. morning, so that we conclude they were nailing down platforms in their works. We continue our working parties on the batteries, which are in extreme good condition to annoy the foe.

23d. Wind E. Came in a *Tartan* from *Minorca*, with leather, wine and charcoal. An excellent supply—shoes being much wanted to preserve the feet in our labours on the Rock, (which are sold at 20 and 22 rials per pair) wine to strengthen and revive our spirits, and charcoal to dress our diet, as firing is become a very scarce article; the wrecks of the firesships destroyed on the 7th instant, which furnished a present supply, being almost exhausted, we shall find ourselves very uncomfortably circumstanced, and greatly necessitated in a short time for a sufficiency for cooking. A *Portuguese* fisherman who had pulled a rib from one of the wrecks, on the morning of their destruction, and towed it to shore with his boat, received nine dollars for the small purchase.

24th. This forenoon a *Spanish* 70 gun ship from the East, having an *English* ensign on her fore-top-mast-head, and a yellow flag over it, as a signal of defiance, stretched in close towards *Rosia Bay*, accompanied with two frigates and a xebec, and opened their fire upon the *Panther* and *Enterprize*: our shipping and batteries made a brisk return, the 70 gun ship received several shot, the xebec had one of her sails damaged, and her boom carried away: three of the enemy's shot came on shore; one fell at *Europa*, one at the *Devil's Bowling-Green*, and one at the *New Mole*. Fifteen men were

were wounded on board the *Enterprize* frigate by some powder taking fire during the action, nine are sent to the Naval Hospital, the others remained in the ship not being in a dangerous way. 17th June.

This morning at two o'clock, (it being a dead calm) the enemy began to fire upon the garrison, and the *Panther* lying in *Rosia Bay*. It is conjectured they were gun-boats or floating-batteries, but it being very dark, it was impossible to perceive their form. Several shot, (26lb. weight) came on shore at *South-barracks*, but happily did not do any damage. The shipping and garrison kept up a brisk fire, the picquets of the several regiments were under arms, and the women and children roused, on hearing a general discharge of cannon. It is not improbable to imagine this to be a stratagem of Admiral *Barcello's*, to harrass and fatigue us with repeated firings and alarms from the Bay, and then give the decisive stroke; but they have Britons to oppose their machinations, who in time, (I trust) will let them know their hopes are built like fancied castles in the air. The more we feel our enemy, the more ardent are our desires to engage them. Every countenance is chearful, wishing to scourge those vain people. 27th.

Wind W. Arrived a boat, with sundry small articles, from *Tangier*. 29th.

This day, our Town-Major (Captain *Burke* 58th Regiment,) went out at *Bay-side*, and received a * parley 30th.

* An Officer advancing with a drummer beating, for the purpose of conveying or receiving conditions.

25th June by from the enemy. Not the leaſt intelligence has tranſpired—The particulars are kept with the moſt profound ſecrecy—various are the conjectures of the public. The ſituation of the enemy's works and approaches, indicate a bombardment, and ſome imagine that articles of capitulation have been ſent in for negociation; but this is only ſuppoſition.

The enemy have for theſe ſeveral days been carrying ſtores in covered waggons to their lines: they keep ſtrengthening and advancing their approaches; their horſe and infantry ſtill continue exerciſing daily, and a great many men are employed in and about their Artillery Park,—we can plainly perceive they have a great quantity of ſhot and ſhells piled there. Next month may probably be the appointed time for the performance of the tragic ſcenes, and for the offering ſacrifices to the God of War, among which, ſhould I become an oblation in my country's cauſe, let me intreat you will not repine at the unalterable decrees of the Allwiſe Creator of the univerſe.—With fervent wiſhes for your health and welfare, I remain,

Dear Brother,

Affectionately yours, &c.

LETTER

LETTER X.

GIBRALTAR. 1780. July 2.

DEAR BROTHER,

OF the approaching ſtorm, every day adds freſh confirmation. Our cartel this forenoon went to the bottom of the Bay, and received 100 priſoners of war, taken in the *Admiral Keppel* privateer. They bring information that 42 ſail of *French* and *Spaniſh* line of battle ſhips, and ten bomb-ketches, have actually ſailed from *Cadiz* for this place, and that 30,000 men are within a ſhort march of the camp of *St. Roque*. This makes it evident that *Spain* is determined, if poſſible to take *Gibraltar*, ſo that we may ſhortly expect material buſineſs executed. Some conſultations have been held, but the reſult is not made public.

Laſt night, wind E. N. E. the *Panther*, Captain *Harvey*, got under way with a ſtoring breeze—ſome aſſert ſhe is gone to *Tangier* for the preſervation of the ſhip, others, that ſhe has ſailed for *England*. The report made by the priſoners received from *Spain* yeſterday occaſioned her departure. Our force now is very formidable, viz. the *Enterprize* and *Porcupine* frigates, *St. Firmin* ſloop, the *Gibraltar* and *Fortune* cutters. 3d.

An armed boat having come near our ſhips, this forenoon, was fired at ſeveral times to make her ſheer off. It is imagined that *Don Barcelo* had come over in her, to ſee what had become of the *Panther*.

The *Spaniards* this forenoon, were very buſy in their camp; 5th.

1780 July. camp; several parties practising their mortars. We kept up a very hot fire last night, upon their parties, mostly small shells.

8th. Last night, Wind E. sailed four Indiamen from this place: They came with the fleet under the command of Admiral *Rodney*. Our shipping intend (as the nights are now dark) to slip out occasionally. This afternoon came in a deserter from the Wallon Guards: He swam from a battery on this side *Fort Negro*—the enemy fired two shot at him. He says, the *Spaniards* are meditating a vigorous storm, against this place, and that on the 7th of June, when the fireships were sent in, he was an assistant-gunner at the lines, where every thing was in readiness to bombard the town, in case any of those ships had dropped into the *New Mole*, that the matches were lighted, and only waited for the word "fire."

10th. Wind W. Came in a packet-boat from *Port*,—— She lay eight days in the creeks of the *Barbary* shore, before she could find an opportunity of getting in. The *Portuguese* Captain says, that it was currently reported, that the *British* fleet had defeated the *French*, on their passage to join the *Spaniards* at *Cadix*. How far this is true, time will discover.

The prisoners of war brought in here the 2d instant, assert, that several more fire-ships are preparing at *Algeziras* and the rivers—The naval Commander on this intelligence, has removed all vessels from *New Mole* into the Bay.

Wind

Wind W. Arrived a boat from *Tangier*, with fowls and pigeons.—From the account ſhe brings, we may expect no further intercourſe with *Barbary*: The Patron ſays, two of our garriſon boats, were chaſed on ſhore by the *Spaniards*, and captured in that port. The Emperor of *Morocco* ſtill winks at the hoſtilities committed by them, and even countenances their illegal proceedings, by permitting the *Spaniſh* boats to ſeize our veſſels coming into *Tangier*; ſeveral have been taken under the walls of that place. 1780. 16th. July.

Several *Spaniſh* frigates and xebecs keep cruizing in the Gut, and to the eaſtward of the Rock.

Between twelve and one o'clock this morning, the *Spaniſh* gun boats began an attack upon our ſhipping: The fire was returned by us, but it is imagined without any effect, they being imperceptible to the eye in the night, the flaſh of their guns being the only object we have to direct the ordnance by: Several of the enemy's ſhot came on ſhore, and a gun was diſmounted on board the *Enterprize* frigate. 17th.

GARRISON ORDERS.

"*Whenever there is any firing from the garriſon or the enemy, or any appearance of enemy's ſhips, row boats, or armed veſſels, approaching, the commiſſion officers commanding guards, are to report to the Governor what they obſerve, and mention whether all is well on the guard.*"

About two this morning, little wind, the enemy's gun-boats again attacked the ſhipping and garriſon, without doing any particular damage, except rouſing 19th.

the

1780. July. the wearied ſoldiery, and timid inhabitants from their nightly ſlumber.

This day a ſoldier deſerted from upper *Forbes's*, where he was at work—He got down by a ſcaling ladder undiſcovered. It is not improbable to imagine that hereafter we ſhall be more frequently troubled with the gun-boats, as there is not the leaſt doubt but he will inform them how far their ſhot reached.

23d. Wind W. Arrived a *Spaniſh* ſhip of the line at *Algeziras*—and alſo came in here a ſmall boat from *Fara*, with lemons and onions.

24th. This day our cartel received from *Spain*, five *Britiſh* priſoners of [illegible] were ſick when the laſt cartel arrived.

31ſt. Wind E. Laſt night four empty tranſports from here, on their paſſage to *England*:——It is imagined the enemy did not perceive them. About noon a veſſel arrived from *Minorca*, with wine, leather, and onions; ſhe narrowly eſcaped being taken behind the Rock—A half galley that came out to intercept her, was fired at by our batteries and ſhipping, to make her keep off.

Nothing very material has taken place this month; the enemy ſtill continue their working parties, and are forwarding ſome additional works: From their preſent operations we ſuppoſe that they are not in readineſs for the attack. Admiral *Barcello's* galleys and gun-boats are conſtantly cruizing. Theſe ſquadrons of ſmall craft take day about to watch the eaſt and weſt entrances of the Bay. Yours, &c.

LETTER

LETTER XI.

GIBRALTAR, 1780. Aug. 3.

DEAR BROTHER,

WIND West. This morning between ten and eleven o'clock, several guns were distinctly heard in the Gut; soon after, we discovered the *Spanish* cruizers chasing a small settee, which stood for the Bay, but before she could get under the cover of our guns, was obliged to strike. It is asserted that she was detached from *Faro* with the mail, the loss of which will be much regretted by all persons, not having received any letters of a considerable time past.

Several vessels arrived from the westward at *Algeziras*, supposed to be laden with ordnance and military stores.

We have kept almost a constant fire upon the enemy this week past, but cannot make them desist from their labours, which they diligently execute.

Wind W. Early this morning, the *Spanish* galleys and gun-boats sallied out from *Algaziras*—a small brig appeared standing for this place; the enemy began a fire upon her, both of round and grape shot, which she run through, till she got nearly within the cover of the guns at *Europa*, when it fell a dead calm, and to our great mortification, she was boarded and towed off by the enemy, nor could we afford her any assistance. This vessel was known to be the *Dolphin*, with supplies from *Lisbon*.

This

1780. Aug. 16. This day our cartel received the crews of four veſſels taken on their paſſage hither, viz. *Dolphin*, Capt. *Grant*, from *Liſbon*; *Sally* and *Rachael*, Captain *Hays*, from *London*; *Polly*, Captain *Coffin*, from *ditto*; and *Betſey*, Captain *Wilſon*, from *ditto*. The three latter were taken in and about *Tangier-Bay*, within muſquet ſhot of the town.

26th. Laſt night the enemy threw up a great quantity of ſand upon their works, to prevent the penetration of our ſhot; their approaches are forwarded with an aſtoniſhing aſſiduity and valour; their camp appears a ſcene of glittering luſtre—we can plainly perceive that they have received a reinforcement of troops. From the progreſs of their operations, it is imagined by thoſe experienced in war, that a ſhort period, will open the grand and long-expected diſplay, wherein *Britons* are to become reſolute performers, and I truſt, will maintain with firm intrepidity, the fame and glory of *Britannia*, and add new luſtre to our Sovereign's arms.

But ſhould great Mars, not deign to bleſs our cauſe,
And proud *Iberia*, gain a triumph'd conqueſt,
If *Britons* in the battle are o'erpower'd,
By numbers far ſuperior, full of vigour,
Not worn out with the heavy toils of war,
Yet firſt they'll fight with martial deſperation,
Nor yield to *Spaniſh* arms, the envied fortreſs,
Not while a man is ſpar'd to fire a gun!
But this is only mere imagination,
Such valiant officers as bear command,
Boyde, De la Motte, Green, Pickton, Hugo, Curtis, M'Kenzie,

M'Kenzie, Gledstanes, Horsfall, Lewis, Maxwell;
With many more experienc'd hard vetrans,
(To mention all their names, 'twould tedious prove)
Like tygers to their prey the men will lead,
And cheer each valiant soldier doom'd to bleed.

Our Governor has made great additions to our fortifications; several new batteries have been erected upon the hill, and others planned out. Should the enemy not open till these are completed, we shall sing to Dons, the old song of Defiance, and laugh at their approaches.

I am,

Dear Brother,

Sincerely yours.

LETTER XII.

GIBRALTAR, Sept. 3.

DEAR BROTHER.

THIS day several large settees arrived from the eastward, with timber and fascines, they anchored off the pier at the *Orange Grove*. It is conjectured they have other works in contemplation. Part of their cargo was landed this afternoon.

Last night two soldiers deserted from *Middle-hill* guard; they got down the back of the Rock, which is almost an entire precipice.

The

The enemy keeps our port blockaded much closer than ever; about ten of their armed cruizers are constantly under *Gibraltar*, some at *Tarifa*, about eight near *Tangier*, three or four at *Tetuan*, some at *Ceuta*, and several at the Gut's mouth, so that it is almost impossible for any veſſel to eſcape: The gun-boats and galleys form a chain every night from *Gibraltar* to *Europa Point*, and in the morning return to their anchorage.—On the land ſide the enemy are quiet, very few working parties employed, their works appear to be complete. We have not received an ox from *Barbary* ſince June 12th, and every ſpecies of proviſion is now at a moſt extravagant price; a turkey cock was ſold a few days ago for three guineas and a half, ducks are one guinea per couple, a goose one pound ſix ſhillings, a hen twelve ſhillings, powder ſugar two ſhillings the pound, ſoap one ſhilling and four-pence ditto, charcoal half a guinea for 25lb. weight, oil two ſhillings the pint, pork two ſhillings and ſix-pence the pound, fiſh at the rate of eighteen-pence ditto, firewood five ſhillings and ſixpence *per* hundred weight, tallow candles two ſhillings and ſix-pence *per* pound, bread very indifferent, onions eight-pence ditto, and all other articles proportionate dear. From this ſketch you may form an idea of our preſent ſituation, and the conſequences that are to follow, if ſome ſupplies are not ſent from *England*.——Arrived a xebec from the weſtward at *Algeziras*.

29th. Arrived laſt night, a ſmall ſettee from *Minorca* with wine, oil, ſugar, honey, onions, turkeys, and other neceſſaries, which are ſold at enormous prices; many

things

things almoſt for their weight of ſilver. It would really be much better if we received none of them, as their ſupply is ſo very ſmall, that it affords but little relief, and enhances the prices of what few things are ſold in the ſhops.

This day a company of markſmen were formed out of the ſeveral regiments; they are to practice twice a day, under the command of Lieutenant *Burleigh*, of the 39th regiment. 16th.

Our cartel this day received a Midſhipman from *Spain*, a priſoner of war. It is confidently aſſerted, that the combined fleet have taken off the *Madeiras*, fifty or ſixty ſail of our outward-bound *Weſt-Indiamen*, and ſome *Eaſt India* ſhips, many of them already arrived at *Cadiz*; if the account is matter of fact, the loſs will be ſenſibly felt by *England*.—The enemy are buſily employed in raiſing the * merlons of all their bomvies at the lines, with faſcines and ſand bags, and work openly upon their † glacis: We do not fire upon them now, as we are forwarding ſome additional fortifications, and probably they might return the fire as they are prepared for the attack, which would greatly annoy us in our labours. 17th.

Laſt night, wind E. ſailed the *Sally* and *Betſy*, and another ſhip for *England*; we think they were both diſcovered, as the enemy threw ſeveral rockets from their watch towers. 19th.

* A part of fortification between two port holes.

† A ſloping bank.

1780. Sept 26. Laſt night ſailed the ſhips *Handeſier* and *Nancy*, with ſeveral women and children on board, bound for *England*. A cruizer under the *Barbary* ſhore fired an alarm gun, and this morning we diſcovered two xebecs had puſhed to the weſtward.

27th. "*Biſcuit will be delivered to the regiments in lieu of ſoft bread, from Monday next the 2d of October, until further orders.*"

28th. This afternoon a reinforcement of three large xebecs from the eaſtward arrived at *Algiziras*.—Came in a deſerter from the Walloon guards, he was dreſſed like a farmer, and ſays that he was a ſerjeant in the *Spaniſh* ſervice; he is a *German*, ſpeaks *Engliſh* and *French* pretty well, ſeems to be an intelligent man: The manner of his coming to the garriſon occaſions a ſuſpicion of his being a ſpy; the Governor has ordered him to be ſtationed at *Wind-mill hill*, and not to have the privilege of walking the ſtreets, as the other deſerters all have.

29th. This day an additional frigate came to an anchor at *Algiziras*.

30th. Wind W. The enemy this day brought into *Algiziras* the ſhip *Sally* and *Betſey*, under her enſign reverſed. She ſailed from here the 25th inſt. It is not improbable but the three other ſhips have ſhared the ſame fate.

Oct. 1. The *Spaniards* availing themſelves of the darkneſs of the night, erected a breaſt work on the iſthmus, between *Landport* Gardens and the *Round Tower*, about 60 feet in length, being within 800 yards of our lines; and

and about three they set fire to our huts in the gardens, and came undiscovered as far as *Bay-side* and *Lower-Forbes's* Guard-houses, where they hung several bundles of combustibles on the palisadoes to burn them down, together with machines, constructed with twelve tubes, charged with a ball cartridge; to each of which a fuse led, intended to kill the guards in endeavouring to free them from the gates; the fuze did not burn to the powder, and the machines were brought in to our laboratory. The centinels posted there did not observe them, owing to the darkness of the night, and the roaring of the sea and wind; but as soon as the flame burst out, the guards gave them a smart fire of musquetry, which obliged them to retreat.—Previous to the affair, the enemy threw a rocket at *Algeziras*, which was answered at their lines, when, in an instant, the gardens appeared in a blaze: They had lain a train from our gates to the several huts in the gardens, which soon consumed them: Fortunately no material damage was done to our gates, nor any person hurt on our side.

This day the enemy brought in, with their ensigns reversed, the *Handelier* and *Nancy*, that sailed the 26th of September. Count *D'Estaing*, with several general officers from the camp, came down to the lines this forenoon. He was saluted at *Fort Negre* with 15 guns, on his return to the camp, from whence he proceeded, accompanied with a great many boats, to *Algeziras*, where the shipping saluted him. The deserter who came in on the 29th last month, reports that the Count was expected in the *Spanish* camp when he left it, and added, that several *French* regiments were preparing to

reinforce the Spanish army next spring, though they flattered themselves at St. Roque that the garrison would be in their hands much sooner.

3d. Last night we fired at the enemy's breast-work an incredible number of small shells, and several carcasses but we don't perceive any particular damage done.

5th. GARRISON ORDERS.

"*If the enemy approach towards any of the posts, and at all times where there is any firing, or any thing extraordinary happens in the night, reports are immediately to be sent to the Governor, and the Field Officer of the day, and notice given to the adjacent posts. In case of a sudden attack, upon any of the posts, the Officer commanding there, will make such a disposition for the defence of his post, as the nature of the attack may seem to him to require.*"

6th. About eleven o'clock last night, there was a great deal of firing at the entrance of the bay, and this morning we perceived the enemy in possession of a battery, with a Spanish ensign above the English.

6th. Our cartel went out this day for prisoners of war, but they only received the women, children, and invalids—the seamen were detained. What the Spaniards mean by this is not known here.

7th. This day the Town-Major went out to Spain with a parley; the centinel at the advanced work, at first opposed his passing, but after some deliberation, accompanied him as far as the Round Tower, where an officer came to receive the letter, but looked very sul-

len.

there.

Last night the enemy raised the number of their batteries in the lines, about five higher.

GARRISON ORDERS.

"*The ration to receive to-morrow, two pound of salt fish, three pints of pease, and half a pound of beef.*

"*N. B. This is for the week's allowance.*

Wind E. This morning early, a small settee arrived with supplies from *Minorca*, and the Patron having intimated that two others were standing for the Rock, our boats went out with an intention to assist them, but no such vessels appeared; however a *Danish* dogger, in company with a *Dutch* convoy, having come pretty near *Europa Advance*, which she could not see on account of a thick fog—our boats boarded and brought her in. She proves to be from *Malaga*, bound to *Amsterdam*, laden with lemons, oranges, raisins, &c. which articles being deemed very refreshing to the troops, especially the sick, the Governor ordered her cargo to be landed. An attempt was also made by our boats upon a *Dutch* ship, but on account of the fire from the frigate of the convoy, was compelled to desist.

Last night, a soldier attempting to desert to the enemy from *Middle-hill* Guard, fell from the heights and was dashed to pieces at the foot of the Rock. One would imagine it to be undertook in a person to endeavour

endeavour to escape that way, as the precipices of the Rock are so steep, that the very idea to a rational mind would deter him from such a proceeding.

26th. Two of the enemy's gun-boats have for these several mornings, appeared at the *Old Mole Head*, (at long gun shot distance) and row gently along in a line opposite the *King's Bastion*, as if they were sounding—They prevent our fishing boats from going to their usual posts. Yesterday and this day, a large body of the enemy have been busily employed in levelling a piece of ground on the east side of the first guard-house near *Fort Philip*: Our engineers are of opinion they are going to erect a battery there.

28th. The enemy's gun-boats, yesterday and this day, fired on our fishing-boats, and obliged them to come in. It is evident their intention is to cut off the refreshing supply of fish, as well as meat. The ordnance mounted in these boats, discharge shot 2lb. weight, and are of great annoyance. They are able to attack a ship of force in a calm.

29th. Wind E. Came in a small vessel from *Minorca*, with variety of articles: The gun-boats fired several shot at the St. *Firmin* sloop, which she returned, without any damage on either side. We have these several nights, at intervals, discharged * light balls on the isthmus, to discover if the enemy's parties were working, which

* Some cast in lead, and some made of strong paper, filled with a composition, which while it burns gives a sufficient light to observe the enemy's motions.

the Spanish soldiers often extinguish by covering them with their cloaks.

GARRISON ORDERS.

Issues of provision for the next month, commencing 23d of October and ending 19th November, 1780.

The stoppage of beef will be paid for at the rate of 20 quarts the pound, the oatmeal at 24 quarts the gallon.

Officers per month.

Bread, seven pound; Beef, six ditto; Pork, four ditto; Peafe, four pints; Wheat, six ditto; Flour, three pounds; Raifins, two ditto; Kidney Beans, four pints; Butter, ten ounces; Oatmeal, four pints.

N. B. Four pound beef and eight pints of oatmeal to be paid for.

Hospital per Week.

Beef, half a pound; Pork, one pound; Oatmeal, three pints; Butter two ounces and half. Wheat, one pint and half; Flour, 3-4ths of a pound, Raifins, half-pound; Rice, ditto; Kidney Beans, one pint; Vinegar, half-pint, in lieu of four pints peafe and seven ounces and half butter.

N. B. One pound beef to be paid for.

Men per Week.

Beef, one pound; Pork, one ditto; Peafe, one pint; Oatmeal, one ditto; Butter, two ounces and half; Wheat, one pint and half. Flour, 3-4ths of a pound; Raifins, half a pound; Kidney Beans, one pint; Vinegar, quarter of a pint, in lieu of three pints peafe, and seven ounces butter.

N. B. One pound beef and two pints of oatmeal to be paid for.

Wind

Wind S. E. This morning arrived and anchored under *Europa Advance*, not being able to get round the point, a small boat with wine and other necessaries from *Algiers*. The *Spaniards* sent in a parley this forenoon, wherein it is ordered no longer to communicate by land, the bay being appointed for that purpose.

This morning, the weather being more calm, our boats brought round the settee that anchored under the *Advance* yesterday. About four this afternoon, three of the enemy's gun-boats saluted the *Enterprize*, with their 26 pounders, which she returned:—The battery on the *Mole* and *South Bastion* fired several rounds at them, which made them take a hasty farewell—Several of their shot came on shore.

This morning we perceived that the enemy had extended their advance work (now termed the *Tower* battery, but without success, as most of them fell wide of the work; the *Spanish* soldiers encouraged by this, came out and exhibited tokens of defiance, but a round of well-directed grape shot from *Willis's*, soon made them forget their pastime. The enemy are still employed on the work adjacent to St. *Philip*, and have begun to make a battery at *Cabritta Point*, either to protect their cruizers which anchor there, or to annoy our shipping coming in or going out.

We continue to keep up a fire upon the enemy on the isthmus, which has greatly prevented their carrying on their works,—they have not done any additional part since the 26th. Last night two soldiers that were centinels at *Upper Forbes's*, got down by means of a rope,

rope, and deserted. If they speak the truth, they can 1780. October.
only inform the enemy, that we are prepared to repulse their arms, and that our works are in excellent condition; this will have a tendency more to perplex and discourage, than animate and please.

Their num'rous troops, long train'd to arms and hardships,
Fed up with promises and expectations,
Of great encouragement, and sure reward,
To make them fight more desp'rate in th' attack.

Within our walls the greatest unanimity and strict adherence to discipline presides, a coincide of heart and hand to meet the foe, and, I venture to aver, a general wish to scourge the disturbers of the public tranquility; dangers and difficulty apparently are disregarded, and the more exalted ideas of fame and glory reinstated. With resignation to the divine will, and the most brotherly affection,

I remain

Yours, &c.

LETTER

LETTER XIII.

GIBRALTAR.

DEAR BROTHER,

1780. Nov. 1. OUR situation still remains the same—the enemy working, and we firing: Admiral *Barcello*, with an unexampled strictness, continues to guard the entrance of the bay, even neutrals are not allowed to pass without examination:—A snow who kept company with a *French* convoy which passed to the eastward, and made a sudden push for *Europa*, was taken to the southward of the point and carried in *Ceuta*. This day we fired several well directed shells into the *Tower Battery*, where we heard men at work.

2d. Last night two soldiers deserted from the garrison; they got down by a rope at *Zoca* battery, stripped, and took to the water. The enemy worked very hard till near twelve o'clock, when they were forced to leave off, on account of our fire.

GARRISON ORDERS.

The regiments to be served with soft bread on Monday next.

8th. Last night between seven and eight o'clock, the enemy's cruizers fired at a vessel standing for the Bay, with the wind at West, the fire was returned by her, and soon after we heard an explosion of powder, so that

that we conclude, either the veſſel or a *Spaniſh* cruizer blew up. The enemy labour much at their advanced works, and notwithſtanding theſe moon-light nights, and our frequent fire, they have extended their approaches towards the weſtern ſhore. One of the bodies of the two ſoldiers that deſerted the 2d inſtant, was found floating under the line-wall; another corps was ſeen taken up on the ſtrand near Fort St. *Philippe*. 1780. Novem.

Laſt night arrived a ſettee, with wine and ſundry articles from *Faro*. 10th.

We kept up a heavy cannonade from all the batteries that could bear upon the iſthmus and lines, till after midnight. It is reported that ſeveral carts and working parties were advancing, but it would be an impoſſibility for the enemy to execute any buſineſs under ſo briſk a fire. 11th.

Wind N. W. This morning early, we diſcovered a ſmall ſail under the *Barbary* ſhore—three of the enemy's gun-boats ſet out from *Cabritta-point*, and as ſoon as they came near enough, began a fire of grape-ſhot upon her, and often covered her with the diſcharge, ſhe returned the fire faintly, but kept ſtanding her courſe; the boats afraid to board her, two xebecs ſtretched down upon her, and fired a broadſide or two without doing any execution: The boats continued their fire until ſhe got under the garriſon guns, when our batteries at *Europa* and *Buena-Viſta*, played ſo briſkly, that they found it prudent to chaſe her no longer. She proves to be the *Young Sabine*, Captain *M'Clorg*, from *London*, in 18 days, with flour and 12th.

1780. Novem. other neceſſary articles, burthen 200 tons and ten men. She was greatly damaged, and her ſails almoſt torn to pieces, having received 29 ſhot which ſtruck her in different parts during the action—She had only one man ſlightly wounded.

This afternoon a *Minorca* ſettee arrived without any interruption, from among ſeveral *Spaniſh* cruizers, who took her to be one of their own veſſels, till they ſaw her ſtand in.

14th. Laſt night came in a ſettee from *Malaga*, with fruit only—the *Spaniſh* cruizers convoy'd her almoſt under our guns, by means of a bribe, as the Patron relates, but people are rather ſuſpicious of her being ſent in to view our ſituation.

This morning a *Tartan*, a little to the eaſtward of the Rock, made a ſignal for aſſiſtance, but on account of the current, our boats could not weather round: She got almoſt under *Europa* guns, where ſhe was boarded by a *Spaniſh* lugger's boat, but the crew made their eſcape in their own boat, and came in—She was from *Minorca* with ſupplies. The enemy are working day and night and we keep firing as briſkly.

Sale Prices of Proviſion arrived here with Capt. *M'Clarg*.

	£.	s.	d.
Flour, per barrel,	3	12	0
Cork butter, per pound,	0	1	9
Glouceſter Cheeſe, ditto,	0	1	4
Muſtard, ditto,	0	2	2
Hams, ditto,	0	2	4
Bacon, ditto,	0	2	4

Tongues,

Tongues, ditto,	0	3	0
Coals, per chaldron,	14	14	0
Herrings, per barrel,	4	0	0
Candles, per pound,	0	1	4
Porter, per hogſhead,	6	10	0
Rum, per gallon,	0	10	0

This is a ſpecimen of the prices as they ſold in lots, but the buyers who retail them again, make almoſt cent. per cent. You may therefore judge how thoſe are ſituated who have not money, or convenience to purchaſe a quantity.

About eight this evening, the *Malaga* ſettee, received an order to leave the harbour, as the General entertains a doubt of her friendſhip.

Laſt night between eight and nine o'clock, ſeveral guns were briſkly fired towards the entrance of the bay, and continued firing for the ſpace of half an hour; and this morning we perceived the enemy in poſſeſſion of a brig, which we ſuppoſe to be an *Engliſh* veſſel from the weſtward. 15th.

The enemy's gun-boats, yeſterday evening, arranged themſelves in the bay, who on a ſignal from *Fort Negro*, opened their fire towards the Roſia, the ſhipping off *Ragged-ſtaff* and ſaluting-battery, which was as freely returned by the garriſon and men of war: Moſt of their ſhot came on ſhore, but did not do any conſiderable damage. This nocturnal excurſion, which the enemy had planned, greatly facilitated their operations on the iſthmus, for while our attention was di- 17th

rected

1780. Novem. rected towards the naval ſpitfires, they were aſſiduouſly employed in ſtrengthening their advanced works and *Tower battery*, for we perceived ſome thouſands of ſand bags piled up on their approaches, which as far as we can judge, will afford them the greateſt cover from the fire of our batteries on the height. This politic ſcheme gained them a conſiderable acquiſition, and will much forward their enſuing labours.

28th. Notwithſtanding our heavy fire laſt night, the enemy extended their approaches conſiderably. They have begun forming a trench towards the Centre ſtone guard houſe, on the iſthmus, to cover their men paſſing to and from the *Tower battery*.

GARRISON ORDERS.

Proviſions from 20th November to 17th December.

Officers per Month.

Beef, ſix pounds; Pork, four ditto; Peaſe, four pints, Oatmeal, four ditto; Wheat, four ditto; Flour, three pounds; Butter, three ounces; Raiſins, two pounds; Rice, two pints. To be paid for, four pound beef; eight pints of oatmeal; two pints of wheat.

Hospital per Week.

Beef, pound and half; Pork, one pound; Butter, two ounces and half; Wheat, one pint; Oatmeal, three pints, Flour, 3-4ths of a pound; Raiſins, half ditto; Rice, one pint; Vinegar, half a pint; one pound beef to be paid for—the wheat paid for as uſual.

Men

MEN per Week. 1780. Novem.

Beef, pound and half, Pork, one ditto; Peaſe one pint; Oatmeal, one ditto; Wheat, one ditto; Flour, 3-4ths pound; Raiſins half ditto; Rice, half pint; Butter, two ounces and half; Vinegar, 1-4th pint. To be paid for, Beef, one pound; Oatmeal, two pints; Wheat, half a pint.

N. B. Seven pound Bread ſerved weekly, to officers and men.

The enemy, laſt night, again ſaluted us with a li- 19th.
beral diſcharge of twenty-ſix pounders, directed to our ſhipping—The *New-Mole*, *South*, *King's*, *Montague's* baſtions and ſaluting battery opened upon them with the greateſt fury, and continued firing upwards of an hour: During the action, a gun unfortunately burſt upon the *King's* baſtion, which killed the bombadier of the detachment, and wounded another man—The head and thigh of the former was tore off—ſeveral pieces of the gun flew into the centre of the town, but happily did not effect any damage.

GARRISON ORDERS.

"*No lights to appear towards the bay, in any houſe,* 20th.
barrack, guardhouſe, or other building, after ſeven o'clock at night."

The enemy's gun-boats continue their nightly ex- 21ſt.
hibitions—they did not injure us much by their fire laſt night.

The enemy's gun-boats, laſt night, again viſited us 24th.
with their uſual generoſity; but moſt of their ſhot fell

ſhort

1780. shoot, so that the garrison and shipping made no return. The enemy, it is imagined, misjudged the distance, not seeing any lights on shore, agreeable to the orders of the 20th inst.

The enemy continue their regular approaches, several parties employed in bringing down to their lines, fascines, gabions, empty casks, &c. They have begun a passage towards the garrison, and made a sortie between the seven and fourteen gun batteries:—We annoy them as much as possible, with our small shells, during their nightly labours, but in the day time, they don't carry on any visible work. In searching after a soldier, who has been missing these several days, (supposed to have deserted) the skeletons of two men were found behind the rock.

25th. The gun-boats attacked us again last night—the *Enterprize* returned a few shot, but the garrison was silent, except towards the isthmus, where a general discharge of ordnance continued during the time and the remainder of the night. We set fire to part of their works, but not effectually; the enemy, however, extended their approaches some yards. The work on the strand, near *Fort Phillips*, is now completely finished, being a battery of 12 guns, constructed for the annoyance of our shipping at *New Mole*.—It appears to be about 12 or 14 feet high, and according to opinion, well executed.

26th. The enemy's gun-boats generously gave us a few rounds; they fired several of their shot into the town, without doing any mischief,—one fell into the Product-Master's

Master's quarters, behind *King's* bastion. Our shipping, yesterday, hauled into *New Mole*;—many are of opinion they have some intimation of a speedy attack, and others, that it is to prevent being so much exposed to the enemy's gun-boats. The *Spanish* approaches were much forwarded last night. The centinels at the *Tower* battery, fired yesterday several musquet shot at our gardeners, outside of *Landport*: they have plundered the gardens every night of late, but now in a daring and audacious manner, they come forward in the day time to gather the vegetables remaining there—we occasionally fire wall-pieces, grape shot, and small shells, but they seem so resolute, that all our efforts to make them desist cannot intimidate them. Several men have been seen to fall at the *Tower* battery, but we have not been fortunate enough to hit one of those that come forward—the walls of the wells in the gardens afford them excellent shelter. 1780. Novem.

The *Danish* dogger that our boats brought in on the 11th of October, sailed last night for St. *Ubet*:—the *Spanish* cruizers have picked her up, and carried her into *Algiziras*. The enemy's approaches are forwarded with an incredible rapidity. General *Alvarez*, who commands in the camp, visits the lines and forts once or twice a week—we know him by his uniform and suite, on which occasion we never fire into the *Spanish* lines—this is being politically complimentary. 29th

This morning came in a *Spanish* polacre, with shoes, leather, silk, &c. on board—she was taken to the eastward by the *Anglicana* privateer, who is expected to arrive here hourly. 30th.

1780. Nov. 30th. Yeſterday the remaining *Spaniſh* frigates, that were at *Algaziras*, ſailed to the weſt, ſo that the only ſhip of force which occupies that place is *Barcello's* xebec.—Two fire-ſhips have been brought out of *Gaudarangue* river, and anchored at the *Orange Grove*; ſeveral more are getting ready in the rivers, and, I believe, ſome at *Algaziras*. It is rather probable that the enemy have received an account of our fleet coming here, and are preparing for their deſtruction, they muſt therefore keep a ſharp look-out on their arrival, or change the ſcene, and ruſh furiouſly on the foe,—

Root up their works, diſperſe their vaunting camp,
Sink ev'ry boat and ſhip—their forts deſtroy,
Set *Algaziras* and *Santa Roque* in flames,
Strike terror and diſmay to all the coaſt,
On *Andaluſia's* province hurl deſtruction,
And deveſtation ſpread throughout the country!

O! how ſhould we triumph to ſweep their camp of men, and coaſt of cruizers, that have ſo long prevented our receiving refreſhing and agreeable ſupplies:—We long to viſit the common at the foot of *St. Roque*, to clear the ground of marquees, tents, huts and ſheds, and to let nothing remain but the herbage for the cattle.

I remain,

Yours, &c.

LETTER

LETTER XIV.

GIBRALTAR.

DEAR BROTHER,

AMIDST promised dangers, heavy labours, harrassing alarms, constant watchings, lively hopes and expectations, I snatch a few moments to devote to your service. The period for the celebration of immortal VICTORY or DEATH, hourly awaits us, and the glories and pomp of battle, in solemn steps approach: martial honours excite to valour, and the consideration of *Britain's* cause invigorates each bosom, to repulse the combined arms of imperious *Gaul*, and proud *Iberia*, which glitter and adorn the *Spanish* plains. 1780. Dec. 1st.

Although the god war, with aspect grim,
Exulting, strides around our stubborn rock,
And slaughter, with voracious jaws extended,
Impatient waits to seize the fallen prey.

This forenoon signals were made at the *Spanish* watch-towers, of an enemy being to the eastward—a ship appeared standing for the rock, chased by two xebecs;—two gun-boats pushed out from *Algaziras*, and soon got near her—a fire immediately commenced between them, and continued till she came under *Europa* guns, without doing each other much damage. She proves to be the *Anglicana* letter of marque, of 26

1780. Dec. guns and 80 men, from *Smyrna*, laden with silk. A small xebec was carried into *Algaziras*, with a *Spanish* ensign above the *English*; many are of opinion that she was a *Minorca* vessel bound for this place.

3d. Yesterday evening we had a violent storm of hail, rain, lightening and thunder—the storm did not reach the *Spanish* camp, or they must have suffered considerably. Arrived a frigate at *Algaziras*.

4th. Wind E. Last night, with a stiff breeze, the *Anglicana* sailed from hence, on her passage to *England*:—A Lieutenant embarked on board her with an express.

5th. The weather having proved rainy and boisterous these three days past, the enemy have not been able to execute any work on the isthmus, nor has any of their cruizers made their appearance in the Bay. The Governor has ordered the pavement of the streets to be dug up as far as *Southport*: one hundred and ten inhabitants, (besides the soldiery) are employed in this work, viz. sixty Roman Catholicks, thirty Jews, and twenty British; the stones are thrown over the little wall. The intention of this, is to prevent the havock that would ensue from the explosion of the enemy's shells, whenever they open from their batteries, as the great weight that fall buries them under the surface of the ground, and when they burst, they scatter whatever is near them for seventy or eighty yards around.

6th. The enemy worked very hard last night, and greatly forwarded their approaches:—This morning they

fired

fired very brisk on our gardiners, who were forced to retire. A frigate from the West has anchored on the other side.

We fired this morning by way of experiment, from *Old Mole Head*, six ten-inch shells out of howitzers, one of which penetrated into the centre of the *Tower* battery, and apparently set fire to it, which they soon extinguished.

The wind blowing strong E. and the sea too rough for the gun boats, three settees arrived from Algiers, and a brig from *Leghorn*, with wine and other necessaries. None of the *Spanish* cruizers attempted to stir.

The enemy's covered-way is greatly extended, a few nights more will bring it home to the *Tower* battery.

The enemy's covered-way is not yet completed, owing to the rough and rainy weather; they have extended it very near the East line of their advanced work. This morning six pieces of cannon were laid in the sand behind the *Old Mole*. They have an elevation of 45 degrees, and it is imagined they will send shot (red hot) into the enemy's encampment and artillery park.

Last night the enemy completed their covered-way: they have brought it close home to the East angle of the *Tower* battery—The weather having proved calm, the *Spanish* cruizers again cover the face of the Bay.

The enemy last night began another line of approach, extending

1780. Defers. extending from the left of the *Tower* battery, towards the *Centre-Stone* Guard-house.

GARRISON ORDERS.

"*The issues of provision for the next month, to be the same as last, except that only one week's oatmeal, at a pint each ration, can be spared to leave the usual supply for the hospitals.*"

17th. The enemy extended their approaches some yards last night, and we, with our usual liberality of shot and shells, repaid their labours. Several settees, and [illegible]cres arrived from the East at *Algiziras*.

21st. Wind W. Last night a firing was heard from the offing for near an hour, which proved to be the *Speedwell* cutter, with dispatches from *England*, engaging a xebec, which was under the necessity of putting into *Ceuta* to repair her damages; she got safe into *New Mole*, but the intelligence brought by her, is at present kept secret.

23d. Arrived the *Hannah* privateer, from *England*, with cheese, beef, pork, butter, &c.——a very good supply. It must sensibly aggravate Admiral *Barcello*, notwithstanding the attention and alertness of his armed boats and cruizers, that vessels so frequently drop in here.

25th. This day the deserter that came in the 28th of September was sent to the *Provost*, he being, from indubitable facts, proved a spy. Several writings were found in his possession, inscribed to a *Spanish* officer together with a plan of the garrison sewed up in a coarse cloth.

cloth. Among other paſſages he ſays, that, "Between 1780.
the *Advance* and *Dead-man's-hole*, the ſhore is ſo bold, that they may bring their ſhipping cloſe to the Rocks and land the men from off the yards; and, after this is done, to take poſſeſſion of the travelling pieces of cannon on *Wind-mill-hill*, draw them to the *Parade*, and cannonade the town. Came in laſt night, the ſnow *Kitty* and *Polly* from *Liverpool*, with butter, flour, cheeſe, and potatoes; the latter ſells at one rial and a half per pound. Deſerted, a ſoldier in the night.

This day two *Mooriſh* veſſels were carried into *Al-* 29th.
geziras; it is conjectured they were deſtined for this place.

This forenoon a ſettee belonging to the enemy was 30th.
becalmed off *Europa*, and our boats went out and boarded her—the crew eſcaped.—She had two pigs and ſome empty caſks on board. It is ſome time ſince we had the ſatisfaction to hoiſt the *Engliſh* colours over the *Spaniſh*.

This morning, a *Tartan* laden with brandy and ſu- 31ſt,
gar, came in from *Minorca*. She brings no particular intelligence. Laſt night a ſerjeant deſerted from the back of the rock.

The enemy keep attentively at work, and forward their approaches and covered retreats with the utmoſt ſpirit; their heavy loſs of men does not diſcourage their operations—they ſeem intent and determined to

capture

capture *Gibraltar*. Probably the next year will decide the contest: if they should be successful and take the garrison, it will be an expedition worthy of record; but we have not the least idea of this nature, our batteries are so well mounted with heavy ordnance, and manned with *Britons*, that the name of being conquered is laughed at as an absurdity.

I am,

Dear brother,

Affectionately yours.

LETTER XV.

GIBRALTAR.

DEAR BROTHER.

OUR prospect is but gloomy; the enemy are very busy, and are still forwarding works of annoyance. It is conjectured as soon as the bomb-battery is completed, that the pastime will begin; but I hope, this year will terminate with victory to *Old England*.

This day under flag of truce, the two *Moorish* galleys, that arrived the 29th of last month, were conducted from *Algeziras* to this place; they have brought Consul *Logie*, and the *British* families and Jews from *Tangier*.

Tangier. We learn that hoſtilities are commenced by the *Barbarians* againſt us, and that the Emperor of *Morrocco* has ſold the ports of *Tangier* and *Tetuan* to His Catholic Majeſty; by this means the enemy conclude *Gibraltar* their own, and that famine will compel us to capitulate. I hope their expectations will be fruſtrated, and that, in ſpite of the united efforts of our foes, the *Britiſh* enſigns will ever be kept flying here.

GARRISON ORDERS.

"*The centries on the ſea-line, are not to ſuffer any perſon to land under any part of the line wall, or upon the rocks towards the ſouthward, or to remain on ſhore there after firſt gun-fire, but to fire upon whoever they may diſcover, either on ſhore, or attempting to land after that time.*" 14th.

Laſt night a *Spaniſh* frigate was drove by a ſtorm under our walls, the garriſon took her for an *Engliſh* veſſel, therefore, did not fire upon her; a heavy rain coming on, and a thick haze upon the water, ſhe eſcaped unperceived till this morning. The two *Moriſh* galleys ſailed from hence to the weſt. 15th.

GARRISON ORDERS.

Ration of proviſions from the 15th January till the 11th February.

OFFICERS per month.

Bread, twenty-eight pounds; Pork, four ditto; Beef, four ditto; Peaſe, four pints; Butter, ten ounces; Cheeſe, one pound and a half, in lieu of two pounds of Beef.

Kidney-beans, four pints; Wheat, four ditto; Flour, three pounds; Raisins, two ditto, in lieu of twelve pints of Peafe and thirty ounces of Butter.

Hospital per Week.

Bread, feven pounds; Beef, one ditto; Pork, one ditto; Butter, two ounces and a half; Cheefe, fix ditto, in lieu of half a pound of Beef.

Wheat, one pint; Flour, 3-4ths of a pound; Rice, one pound; Raifins, half a pound; Oatmeal, three pints; Vinegar, half a pint, in lieu of four pints of Peafe, and feven ounces and a half of Butter.

N. B. One pound of Beef to be paid for.

Men per Week.

Bread, feven pounds; Beef, one ditto; Pork, one ditto; Peafe, one pint; Butter, two ounces and a half; Cheefe, fix ounces, in lieu of half a pound of Beef.

Flour, 3-4ths of a pound; Wheat, one pint; Kidney-beans, one ditto; Raifins, half a pound; Vinegar, 1-4th of a pint, in lieu of three pints of Peafe, and feven ounces and a half of Butter.

N. B. One pound of Beef, and three pints of Oatmeal to be paid for.

16th. Wind W. This morning arrived a brig from the *Madeira Iflands* with 80 pipes of wine. She was drove from her moorings in a ftorm, with only fix hands on board.—Her cargo will prove a refreſhing fupply.

Wind

Wind W. S. W. Laſt night came in the *Tartar* privateer, from *England*, with diſpatches from Government—ſhe had a paſſage of ſixteen days, and brings the intelligence that hoſtilities are commenced againſt the *Dutch*. She had the good fortune to capture four *Dutch* veſſels on her paſſage, and carried them into *Portugal*. Our frigate lying in *New Mole* fired ſeveral ſhot at her, ſuſpecting her to be an enemy, as ſhe ſtood towards the bottom of the Bay, our former anchorage. 1781, Jan. 28.

General *Eliott* has ordered letters of marque to be iſſued, the ſame as granted againſt *France* and *Spain*. The garriſon received the above account with univerſal eclat; the officers and every individual ſeemingly felt a ſenſible pleaſure upon the occaſion. Whether from it being the anniverſary of Her Majeſty's birth day, or from this piece of information, the royal ſtandard was hoiſted, and a rejoicing obſerved by the garriſon, ſhipping, boats, &c. by a diſcharge of cannon at one o'clock—the ſeamen manned and cheered, and the land batteries ſaluted the enemy's works with ball.

This morning ſoon after day-break, the ſerjeant commanding the *Bay-ſide* (a detached guard) jumped over the palliſadoes, and walked gently on towards the enemy's works, ſeemingly undetermined, whether to go forward, or return to the garriſon. It is reported that being greatly in debt, (having kept a meſs for 30th.

1781. Jan. officers) excited him to this deplorable act—the centinels discharged their musquetry, but it is uncertain whether any of their shot took effect.

23d. Last night, with a stiff breeze at N. W. the *Young Sabine* and the *Hannah* privateers sailed for *Minorca*.—Admiral *Barcelo* having missed them this morning, detached a frigate to the east, under all the sail she could croud, but it is probable she will not be able to come up with them, they having near twelve hours sail ahead.

25th. Yesterday evening, a soldier deserted, supposed from the heights of the rock.

28th. Wind S. E. Arrived the *Tartar*, a *French* prize, of 26 guns, from *Leghorn*, with wine, oil, brandy, &c. She picked up at sea, the *Brilliant's* long-boat, which makes us imagine that frigate was forced to the eastward, with the strong northerly wind.

29th. Wind E. Last night sailed the *Tartar* privateer, that arrived here on the 28th inst. The enemy threw several rockets from their towers, and this morning we observed a xebec returning from the gut without her prey. On the land side the enemy continue their labours, nor are we remiss in annoying them. Three soldiers are missing, supposed to have deserted.

30th. Wind S. E. Arrived a large settee and a *Tartan* from *Minorca*, with wine, &c. They bring word of the *Brilliant's* safe arrival in that port.

Wind

Wind S. W. Yesterday evening sailed a brig from hence, bound to *Mahon* with supplies. The enemy extended their approaches about about five yards last night, and threw up several heaps of sand—Some infantry, have marched into their camp; reported to have landed at *Cadiz*. Admiral *Barcello* remains at anchor, but his cruizers frequently come over to peep at our works, and observe the situation of our navy.

I am,

Dear brother,

Yours, &c.

LETTER XVI.

GIBRALTAR.

DEAR BROTHER,

NOTwithstanding every effort, and the most studious inventions of annoyance, that possibly could be adopted or executed, we have hitherto found ourselves inadequate to retard the progress of the enemy's operations. History has partially recorded that cowardice generally characterized their conduct; but here give me leave to do justice to our assailants, who have invariably, from the period of their first labours,

to

1781. to the preſent forwardneſs of their approaches, ſhewn
Feb. a martial ſpirit, and undaunted reſolution.

From eve to morn their heavy works go on,
And threat'ning batt'ries riſe, 'midſt ſhow'rs of ſhot;
Our Rock, like burning *Ætna*, red with flames,
Whole volleys of deſtruction vomits forth;
While Death, with horrid grimace, hovers round 'em,
And ſcenes of blood beſmear their operations,
Strew'd o'er with mangled limbs, and heaps of ſlain,
With ſtedfaſt valour, fix'd determination,
They labour and bring forward their advances.

I ſhall endeavour in the ſeries of letters according to my feeble abilities, to give every tranſaction, circumſtance, and event, during the Siege, a true deſcription and illuſtration, to array martial merit in fulleſt ſplendor, and to crown each diſtinguiſhed hero with deſerving laurels.

The enemy extended another branch of their approaches laſt night, compoſed of faſcines and ſand bags. We fired in the courſe of an hour 300 rounds of ſhot and ſhells. This morning a ſoldier deſerted from the garriſon.

2d. Our men of war's boats went round to the back of the rock this forenoon, where they found the bodies of the ſoldier (miſſing yeſterday) and the ſerjeant mentioned 31ſt of December laſt, both in a ſhattered condition. It is aſtoniſhing, notwithſtanding the tremendouſ

duous inſtances, ſo frequently exhibited, they have not ſufficient terror, to prevent men from endeavouring to eſcape to the enemy, even if conſcience was bereft of feeling, and the regard for king, country, relatives, and friends obliviated, one would imagine the conſideration of ſelf-preſervation would alone effect it. 1781. Feb.

This morning at day-break, came in a deſerter from the enemy: He ſays, "That the *Spaniſh* General has received an order to recall the working parties, in conſequence of a propoſition made to the Court of *Great Britain*, of ſix millions of money, and a free trade for the garriſon." There is not the greateſt reliance placed upon his intelligence, but looked upon as a ſtratagem of *General Alvarez*, to gain more liberty in the execution of his further projections. 8th.

Wind E. Arrived the *Saliſbury* privateer, from *Minorca*—A large xebec, and ſeveral galleys endeavoured to ſlip between her and the land. 11th.

The enemy appear to be in agitation on the oppoſite ſide. Several ſignals hung out from their watch towers, and their cruizers returning to the Bay. We are in hopes that the *Britiſh* fleet is within a few leagues. 14th.

Wind N. W. Paſſed by about thirty ſail of neutrals, there being a thick haze could not perceive whether they were ſhips of force. We ſuppoſe the ſignals made yeſterday, was occaſioned by their appearance off the coaſt. 15th.

GARRISON

GARRISON ORDERS.

Feb. *Rations of Provisions from Feb.* 12, *to March* 11, 1781.

OFFICERS per Month.

Bread, twenty-eight pounds; Beef, four ditto; Pork, four ditto; Butter, ten ounces; Oil, one pint; Cheese, pound and half Peafe, four pints; Beans, four ditto; Wheat, four ditto; Rice, pound and half; Raifins, ditto. To be paid for Beef, four pounds; Oatmeal, twelve pints.

MEN per Week.

Bread, feven pounds; Beef, one ditto; Pork, one do. Butter, two ounces and half; Oil, 1-4th pint; Cheefe, fix ounces; Peafe, one pint; Beans, one ditto; Wheat, one ditto; Rice, fix ounces; Raifins, fix ounces. To be paid for, Beef, one pound; Oatmeal, three pints.

HOSPITAL per Week.

Bread, feven pounds; Beef, one ditto; Pork, one do. Butter, two ounces and half; Oil, 1-4th pint; Cheefe, fix ounces; Wheat, one pint; Rice, twelve ounces; Raifins, eight ditto; Oatmeal, three pints; Flour, twelve ounces. To be paid for, Beef, one pound.

Soft Bread the firft Week, Buifcuit afterwards till further orders.

Wind ftrong E. About eleven o'clock laft night,
18th. the *Saliſbury* got under fail:—None of the enemy's cruizers were out on account of the ſtiff breeze.

This

This afternoon a brig arrived from *Minorca*, in four days and a half, with flour, wine, sugar, and brandy: Two xebecs in vain ſtretched acroſs, but could not get near her, the wind blowing very ſtrong. She brings intelligence that the *French* have blockaded *Minorca*. 1781. Feb. 19.

Laſt night came in another brig from *Minorca*.—It muſt greatly chagrin Admiral *Barcello* to view the ſhipping drop in ſo providentially, and he incapable of detaching his cruizers to the eaſt.—Very ſtiff breezes have continued ſince the 18th inſt. 21ſt.

Laſt night a *Genoeſe* brig, (as reported) with four hands, ſlipped over from *Algaziras*, having a few trifling articles on board. The manner of her coming, and the ſmallneſs of her cargo, rather excites a ſuſpicion. The Governor, ever attentive to the preſervation and ſafety of the garriſon, and dubious of the legality of the crew's intention, has ordered a guard to mount on board her daily, until the affair is more thoroughly inveſtigated. 27th.

Laſt night, under a very briſk fire, the enemy threw up a great quantity of ſand upon their faſcine works. It is ſuppoſed their approaches are about twenty feet high. We this day directed our fire to the weſt entrance of the lines, as many covered carts have been obſerved paſſing there. 28th

1780. This month has finished without being productive
Feb. of the desired success; it is to be hoped that the next
March will conduce to the gratification of our wishes, in the
extirpation of our foes.

I remain,

Your affectionate Brother.

LETTER XVII.

GIBRALTAR.

DEAR BROTHER.

1781. EXPERIMENTS of every contrivance are now
May 15. in agitation. ART and INGENUITY, which
have been long employed for the preservation and
knowledge of mankind, are now studying their annihi-
lation. QUADRANTS, SPIRIT-LEVELS, and in-
struments of various forms and machinery, adorn the
batteries, for the more exact and certain method of
KILLING. Every one seems anxious to find out the
safest, quickest, and surest method of dispatch, in the
elevation and depression of the ordnance. I suppose in
a few weeks more practice, they will be so expert in
levelling a gun, that should a *Spaniard* raise his head

above

above the *epaulement*, it will be immediately severed from his shoulders! The gamester, with steadfast eyes fixed on the cast of the dice, never depended more on the goddess FORTUNE, than the several artists do for the success and approbation of their several inventions.

Now *Elliott's* heroes, zealous to destroy,
Against the foe their ARTS and ARMS employ!
Allur'd by hope, the *Spanish* forts to gain,
And drive those num'rous legions from yon plain.

Wind E. Last night arrived a settee from *Minorca*, with sundry useful articles for the garrison; the Patron relates, that three *French* frigates are constantly cruizing off the harbour to prevent succours going in or coming out of that place.

This morning a little before the new guard came to relieve the old *Landport* guard, a soldier on duty there jumped over the pallisadoes near the gate, and ran off. The several guards fired 1143 musquet shot at him, beside grape, but could not ascertain his being wounded. He entered the *Spanish* lines in triumph, yet there is not any doubt but he received several shot.

Yesterday and this day, we had several hours artillery practice on the batteries at the enemy's works;

* A bastion made of earth thrown up, or, of gabions, fascines, &c. &c.

1781. the ordnance was well directed—much ſucceſs is promiſed from the merit of the ſeveral inſtruments under conſideration. The enemy, with great earneſtneſs, became ſpectators from forts St. *Philipe* and *Barbary*, as our guns only played upon the advance works of the iſthmus.

GARRISON ORDERS.

11th. "*The rations of proviſions from the 12th of March to the 8th of April, the ſame as laſt month, except that no wheat will be delivered, but one pint of peaſe will be paid for.*"

16th. Wind E. Came in a polacre and a *Tartan*, from *Minorca*, with wine and brandy—the latter received ſeveral ſhot from one of the enemy's galleys that endeavoured to cut her off.

The enemy, on the land ſide, are very attentive to their employ—we fire pretty hot upon them, as we are of opinion they are mounting ordnance in their advanced works. Yeſterday a ſoldier deſerted from the garriſon.

18th. Arrived a *Tuſcan* polacre, and the *Tartar* cutter from *Minorca*, with brandy and carravances.——A xebec ſtood over from *Ceuta*, but too late to prevent their entrance.

22d. Yeſterday evening, the *Tuſcan* polacre failed on her paſſage to *Liſbon*, but the enemy took her in the night, and this morning carried her into *Algaziras*.

Came

Came in a half-xebec, (a prize) taken by one of the *Minorca* privateers. She says, the *French* frigates so closely watch the entrance into the harbour, that it is almost impossible for a vessel, coming in or going out, to escape. 1781, Mar. 28

Last night, (wind W. N. W.) the *Enterprize* frigate sailed from hence, on her passage to *Minorca*. The repeated intelligence, of the *French* having blockaded that port, occasioned her departure, and we flatter ourselves, when she arrives there, our force will be equal to theirs, the *Brilliant* and *Minorca* frigates being already on that station.——This forenoon a brig, half-bay over, was taken by the enemy's cruizers,—the crew, being nine in number, escaped in a boat—they mention, "That the *British* fleet had twice put to sea, but was forced to return, owing to bad weather and contrary winds." They brought some poultry in their boat, which will afford them a present supply—the fowls sold for four dollars each, equal to twelve shillings and nine-pence; pigeons, three dollars per couple, equal to nine shillings and seven-pence; ducks, eight dollars four rials per couple, equal to one pound six shillings and six-pence. Every species of provision is sold at the same rate, and most of the salt meat is quite rotten, the very smell of it is sufficient for a meal. 29th.

am,

Dear Brother,

Affectionately yours.

LETTER

LETTER XVIII.

GIBRALTAR.

DEAR BROTHER,

1781. Apr. 3. THE garriſon are noiſy with tumultuous joy, occaſioned by the arrival of a cutter laſt night from the Weſt, who brings the captivating and enlivening intelligence of our fleet being on their paſſage for the *Mediterranean*. We ſeem to be another people—the very atmoſphere is changed—no depreſſion of ſpirits—every countenance is adorned with ſatisfactory ſmiles—a ſocial greeting of friends and acquaintances, with overwhelming extacy, accoſt each other, "Dear friend, all our wants will ſhortly be ſupplied."

This morning two fire-ſhips were removed from *Algiziras* towards *Cabritta Point*, intended by the enemy to run in among our fleet: Three others are at *Orange Grove*, and ſeveral ready in the rivers. We are rather apprehenſive of their being a great annoyance to our ſhipping.

4th. Laſt night ſailed the St. *Firmin* ſloop, the *Brilliant's* tender, and a ſettee, for *Minorca*. Two xebecs immediately put to ſea in purſuit of them, with a fine breeze at Weſt.—The enemy are very buſy on the oppoſite ſide, in getting their fire ſhips out of the rivers.

6th. This evening four armed boats, compoſed of a detachment

tachment of five men from each regiment, under the command of a naval officer, proceeded from the *New-Mole*, on an expedition, to cut out the two fire-ships that lay at anchor under *Cabritta*. It continued rainy and cloudy till they had got within a mile of them, when, on a ſudden, the clouds diſperſed, and Luna reflected ſo great a light, that they were under the neceſſity of returning without accompliſhing the buſineſs, the enemy having diſcovered the boats, and made a poſition of defence. 1781. April.

Rations of proviſions from 9th of April to the 6th of May.

OFFICERS per Month.

Beef, three pounds four ounces; Pork, four ditto eight ditto; Butter, ten ounces; Raiſins, three pounds; Peaſe, two pints; Beans, four ditto; Wheat, four ditto; Rice, one ditto; Oil, one ditto;—To be paid for, Beef, ſix pounds; Peaſe, four pints; Oatmeal, twelve ditto.

MEN per Week.

Beef, thirteen ounces; Pork, eighteen ditto; Butter, two ounces and half; Raiſins, twelve ounces; Peaſe, half pint; Beans, one ditto; Wheat, one ditto; Rice, four ounces; Oil, 1-4th pint;—To be paid for, Beef, one pound and quarter; Peaſe one pint; Oatmeal, three ditto.

HOSPITAL per Week.

Beef, thirteen ounces; Pork, eighteen ditto; Butter, two ounces and half; Raiſins, twelve ditto; Beans, one pint; Wheat, one ditto; Rice, eight ounces; Oil, 1-4th pint;—To be paid for, Beef, one pound and quarter.

Bread

1781. April. *Bread iſſued to officers and men one pound and half every two days.*

8th. Wind W. About eleven this forenoon we diſcovered a ſmall ſail under the *Barbary* ſhore. About two o'clock, the enemy's ſquadron weighed and ſtood for her, conſiſting of one xebec, one galley, one cutter, and fifteen large gun-boats, (mounting twenty-ſix pounders) as ſoon as they had reached her, they opened furiouſly, both with round and grape ſhot, which ſhe as briſkly and heroically returned—broadſide for broadſide continued until ſhe got under cover of the guns, when ſhe received repeated and loud huzzas from the garriſon. It is remarkable, notwithſtanding the heavy cannonade, not a man was killed, and only a few wounded. She proves to be the *Eagle* cutter from *Glaſgow*, but brings no account about the fleet.

11th. Laſt night, between eleven and twelve o'clock, came in the *Kite* cutter; ſhe being challenged by the officer of the *Mole* guard, loudly anſwered, "from the fleet," which immediately ſpread like wild-fire throughout the garriſon; Morpheus reſigned his ſovereignty, and ſlumber was forgotten; each found ſufficient employ and ſatisfaction in converſing on the intereſting ſubject——We conjectured in the evening the *Britiſh* fleet was near at hand, as the enemy's towers and coaſt were greatly illuminated, and a number of rockets thrown up at *Cabritta*.—At ſix this morning, the fleet appeared as thick as a wood, ſtanding for the garriſon, with a gentle breeze at S. W. a ſhout of joy inſtantly enſued

fued from every corner, battery, and height, on the diſcovery.—About nine, eighteen of the enemy's gun boats ſallied out from *Algaziras*, but kept pretty well under the land; at ten they began a briſk fire from the boats and battery at the point, upon our ſhipping; two frigates bore down upon them, and played ſo warmly, that the enemy made to land. The battery at *Sand-bay*, and the Iſland at *Algaziras* (mounted with 42-pounders) endeavoured to annoy our ſhipping, but to little purpoſe, as moſt of their ſhot fell wide. One ſhip has juſt dropt anchor.—A call to arms prevents my further writing, the enemy have opened all their batteries on the town; confuſion and conſternation are every where to be ſeen!—Adieu, dear brother, I muſt haſten to the alarm poſt. 1781. April.

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Six o'Clock in the Evening.

The neceſſary diſpoſitions having been made by the General, for the defence of the place, I again re-aſſume the ſubject, on the ſeveral tranſactions of the day: The few moments I have unemployed from duty, I

1781. April. shall endeavour, as far as the noise of rattling cannon and exploding shells will permit, to give you a description. The *British* fleet are safe arrived, with *England's* banners triumphantly flying. Admirals *Darby*, *Digby*, and *Rost*, are in the Bay, and the *Spanish* batteries blazing like a volcano.—About a quarter before twelve, the enemy opened from their forts, lines, and advanced works upon the town, with shot and shells; some of them nearly came into the *New Mole*; a settee lying near the *Tanks*, was sunk by one, providentially the hands were saved.—Accounts are just received, that a shell which exploded in *Prince's-lines* wounded an officer, and tore the serjeant's hand off on duty there—three men killed in *King's-lines*; one killed at *South-port*, by a piece of a shell that burst in the air. Several houses are on fire—the enemy are endeavouring to burn the transports and merchants shipping, but our men of war keep cruizing off *Europa*. A shell which entered a house in *South-port-street*, in the explosion, blew a *Genoese* woman out of the window, but fortunately she did not receive any other damage than a bruise by the fall. The inhabitants exhibit the most impetuous grief and apprehension, precipitately retreating to the southward of the rock for shelter, crowding upon each other like flocks of sheep destined for the slaughter-house, with dread and ghastly amazement pictured on their countenance. The Romans count their beads, and worship their idols, and with a fervency of devotion, supplicate their molten deaf images for protection and safety.

An

An inceſſant fire all night from the enemy's works; 1781. Aprll.
—ſhowers of ſhot and ſhells as thick as hail—two ſoldiers, and a boy of a wine-houſe, not two minutes ago, were killed by the burſting of a ſhell near *Southport*. The inhabitants are terrified to the utmoſt, and deſtitute of every place of ſhelter. I cannot authentically learn the number already fallen, but in a town ſituate like this, it cannot be inconſiderable. We retaliate with equal warmth upon the foe, who conſequently are not exempt from a ſhare in the direful ſlaughter. The town is deſerted by all but the ſoldiery, who now are left to commence merchants, wine-men, butchers, bakers, &c. Here a ſhell blows off the roof of a wine houſe, the troops haſte to partake of the conſuming ſpoil, regardleſs of life or limb, they drink briſkly round, "Deſtruction to the enemy." Here are parties boiling, baking, roaſting, frying, &c. Turkeys, ducks, geeſe, and fowls, become the diet of thoſe, who, ſome days ago were eagerly ſoliciting a hard cruſt of bread—Every pig they meet, receives a ball or bayonet, and this is performed with an unconcern and calmneſs ſcarce to be credited, amidſt a heavy fire, diſregarding the ſupreme juriſdiction of the mighty God of War. Thus they roll in plenty at the hazard of their lives, nor can the precautions and vigilance of the officers, prevent them from profuſely enjoying the varieties of a town once flouriſhing and peopled, brilliant in commercial and military affairs: From *Waterport* to *Southport* houſes are blazing, and ſhot battering down thoſe that will not burn. The element appears in a conflagration, as if JEHOVAH had

1781. April. summoned the guilty world to appear in his awful presence, darting his angry thunder-bolts to send them to swift destruction, flashing of guns, mortars, howitzers, and exploding shells. One minute a shot batters a house about your ears, and the next a shell drops at your feet; here you lay prostrate, waiting the mercy of the explosion:—If you escape unhurt, you are perfectly stunned, and almost suffocated with an intolerable stench of powder and composition:—On every hand slaughtered objects lay before you, harrowing up the tender feelings of the soul; one looses an arm or leg, another cut through the body, a third has his head smashed, and a fourth is blown to pieces, with the bursting of a shell. Thus in a moment do they launch into eternity, probably without time to utter the ejaculation, "God be merciful to me." Blood, cries, groans, wounds and contusions, in every part are to be seen and heard!—Indulgent parents lamenting the loss of sons, and women and children for husbands and fathers. Here we behold passions unfeigned, grief, without mockery, and distress without a veil!

A detachment is ordered to march, to re-enforce a part of the works considered too weak for a strong attack, or to relieve another who have stood twenty-four hours facing an inveterate foe; probably before they reach the post, my comrade falls by my side, and with a tender regret gazes on me, while I push forward to the battery or guard, and leave him to groan out his last accents, weltering in blood! My acquaintance receives a wound, and my best of friends looses the arm

that

that was ever ready to cherish and supply. Sympathetic feeling melts my soul! I dare not weep, but assuming the aspect of a ferocious savage, I trip it away minutely expecting nature's dissolution. Pangs, sufferings, and bleeding spectacles, with a military man, is denied operation: probably with a bosom overloaded with the most poignant grief and anguish, a heart pierced with excruciating woes, you sally forth to meet the daring foe, you receive a wound—you are left to bleed—the foe pursues—your detachment retreats—you find Death busy—the lamp of life faintly burns—your friends are absent—the foe shews no tenderness—you sigh, weep, groan, pray, beg, intreat, and in the bitter agonies implore Almighty God to be merciful to a poor sinner—life hangs on a hair—the cordage of your heart cracks, and you drop into an unknown world, where the secrets of all hearts are disclosed. Your body, which once was costly arrayed in fashionable attire, is denied the form of christian burial, rich and poor, without discrimination, are tumbled into a hole or ditch, a prey for worms and crawling insects. 1782. April.

A husband is called upon for duty, the service demands his immediate presence, nor dare he stay to take his farewell, by imprinting an affectionate kiss; the thundering Mars, envious of his felicity, raises the javelin for destruction, and levels his commiserating partner, while he is absent; not satisfied with lopping off so material a branch of happiness, but extends his decisive commands over their tender offspring. On his return (O sensibility) what a ravaging scene is presented

1781. April. sented to his view! let imagination conceive; a wife that soothed his every uneasiness, and softened the rigours of his fate, alas! no more—His dear beloved children that prattled with a thousand innocent and engaging smiles, and lisped forth their duteous accents, that tended to dissipate the heart corroding cares of life, and promising to be a comfort in his aged days, are now reduced to a lifeless lump of clay. Will not his heart break forth in exclamation, "*Oh! my beloved wife—my charming Harry, my amiable Polly; not suffered to kiss those lips while warm, nor to press you to a bosom to which you was ever dear.*"

What inexpressible anguish must the performers feel in the trying scenes and tragical exhibitions, delineated with the most descriptive wretchedness and misery. This must move pity in every heart, if not steeled against every humanizing principle, nor will imagination allow the suggestion, that those who reside at home, enjoying the deliciousness of life, encompassed with every agreeable variety, and blest with sweets untasted, can refuse their Mite, either of coin or friendship, to the soldier who returns from the wars, to his native shore, enobled with scars, and festering sores, or amputated members, the grand ensigns of martial honors.

14th. The enemy continue the bombardment. Many soldiers killed and wounded: it is computed they fire about 3000 shot and shells every 24 hours. Many houses are blown to pieces with the shells, and others burnt

burnt down. This forenoon eleven gun boats began a fire upon our shipping, and carried away the fore-top-mast of one of the men of war. These insect swarm of gun-boats, contribute their quota to render our days and nights infinitely miserable and alarming, seizing on our retired hours like nightly robbers, who fill the mind with the most agonizing apprehension, awakening us from the repose wearied nature requires, and before you can scarce open your eyes or enquire the cause of the alarm, you behold horror staring you in the face, or feel a precious limb miserably mangled, or hastily torn away. 1781. April.

How distressing this! no place of safety! not one spot, but these furies claiming pre-eminence with the infernal powers, discharge volleys of shocking misery. Overpowered with fatigue, you must watch, for if you close your eyes, you may probably awake in the arms of the *grim King of Terrors*.

What horrors are productive from the wars?
And miseries the most acute, are found:
A husband hastily torn from his wife,
And innocents bereft of their protectors;
The ties of friendship in a twinkling broke——
Where troubles were appeas'd, and sorrows lost,
Where joys were shar'd, and crosses were exchang'd,
Where pleasures were imparted, pains were eas'd;
Where all the joys of sentiment and union,
Connubial happiness and social bliss,
Upon the basis of content resided——

Shook

27th April. Shook into atoms by the angry God!
Like to an earthquake, when her jaws doth ope,
Whole *towns* and *cities* ſwallow in an inſtant!
Thus warriors for *fame* and *glory* fight,
And for their country forfeit each delight.

25th. The fleet have not come to an anchor yet;——the enemy's fire is kept up with great ſpirit, and has done conſiderable damage to the upper batteries—we fire in return. It is diſtreſſing to humanity to view the ſituation of the inhabitants, who have fled from the town to ſeek ſhelter upon the heights of the rock, with only a thin piece of canvas or ſail cloth to ſcreen them from the ſcorching heat by day, and exceſſive dews at night; not any conveniency of dreſſing their diet, and the inexpreſſible anguiſh of viewing their houſes and property in flames: Many of them, in endeavouring to ſave part of their effects, have loſt their lives, and others maimed. A corporal had his head ſhot off as he was calling from a window to a man in the ſtreet. A ſoldier was ſo miſerably torn by a ſhell, that he could not be known only by his dreſs. A *Genoeſe* youth, endowed with every grace and amiable qualification, on the point of nuptial celebration, was unfortunately killed, to the irremoveable grief of his enamoratto. A ſhot killed two ſoldiers, one of which was bruſhing his ſhoes for guard. Our people are aſſidiouſly unloading the ſhipping, as the fleet is not intended to remain long here. We work day and night to get the proviſion landed; one party works from ſun-riſe to ſun-ſet, and another from ſun-ſet till ſun riſe. The town is

laid

laid in a ſtate of deſolation, the greateſt part burnt down to the ground. 1781. April.

I cannot, dear Brother, omit penning an entertaining converſation I had with a ſoldier in *Iriſh-Town* yeſterday. I met *Jack* * *Careleſs* in the ſtreet, ſinging with uncommon glee, (notwithſtanding the enemy were firing with prodigious warmth) part of the old ſong,

"*A ſoldier's life, is a merry life,*
"*From care and trouble free.*"

He ran to me with eagerneſs, and preſenting his bottle, cry'd, "*D--n me, if I don't like fighting: I'd like to be ever tanning the Dons:—Plenty of good liquor for carrying away—never was the prize ſo cheap—fine ſtuff—enough to make a miſer quit his gold.*" Why *Jack*, ſays I, what have you been about? With an arch grin, he replied, "*That would puzzle a Heathen philoſopher, or yearly almanack-maker, to unriddle—I ſcarce know myſelf. I have been conſtantly on foot and watch, half ſtarv'd, and without money, facing a parcel of pitiful Spaniards. I have been fighting, wheeling, marching, and counter-marching; ſometimes with a fire-lock, then a handſpike, and now my bottle* (*brandiſhing it in the air.*) *I am ſo pleaſed with the melody of great guns, that I conſider myſelf as a Roman General, glori-*

O

ouſly

* A Soldier well known in the Garriſon by that name.

1781. April. *ously fighting for my country's honor and liberty.*" A shell that instant burst, a piece of which knocked the bottle out of his hand; with the greatest composure, he replied, (having first graced it with an oath) "*This is not any loss, I have found a whole cask by good luck,*" and brought me to view his treasure. But, *Jack*, says I, are you not thankful to God, for your preservation? "*How do you mean, (he answered) fine talking of God with a soldier, whose trade and occupation is cutting throats: Divinity and slaughter found very well together, they gingle like a crack'd bell in the hand of a noisy cryer: Our King is answerable to God for us, I fight for him; my religion consists in a fire-lock, open touch-hole, good flint, well rammed charge, and seventy rounds of powder and ball: This is military creed. Come, comrade, drink success to the British arms.*" On my asking him for a glass he seemed surprised, "*Why (says he) you may well know there is not any but broken glasses to be had, but here is something that will do as well, (and he took up a piece of a shell.) Here is a cup fit for a Monarch, this was not purchased with gold or friendship, but with the streams of our countrymen's blood.*" Having filled the piece of shell, he gave it to me to drink. Come *Jack*, (said I) Here is King George and victory! "*And he that would not drink the same, (replied he) I'd give him an ounce of lead to pay Charon to ferry him over the river Styx.*" I left him enjoying the spoil, and really felt a sensible pleasure in the recollection.

I am,

Dear brother,

Affectionately yours,

GARRISON ORDERS.

1781. April. 15th.

"Full allowance of Beef and Pork, five ounces of Butter, quarter of a pint Oil, one pint Peafe, one ditto Kidney Beans, two pints of Wheat, twelve ounces of Raifins, to be ſerved to-morrow.

LETTER XIX.

GIBRALTAR. 19th.

DEAR BROTHER.

THE enemy keep up a vigorous bombardment upon us. Our town is almoſt become a heap of ruins, and what few houſes are left ſtanding, the walls are ſo ſhattered, that it is not ſafe to go into them. The inhabitants are conſtructing temporary ſhades, ſome in the gullies between *Catalan Villa* and *Europa*, others on *Windmill-hill*, nor is there ſcarce any part of the Rock out of reach of the enemy's fire by land, but what is covered over either with marquees, tents, or huts. The regiments (whoſe quarters in town were deſtroyed,) are now encamped at the Southward; a reinforcement of officers and men are every night de-

1782. April. tached to town, exclusive of the daily guards, as we are held in expectation of a speedy visit from the foe; General *Eliott* is prepared to receive them, with military politeness, nor has he sparingly provided for their reception, an excellent repast of shells, of different sizes;—round and grape shot, hand * grenades, carcases, &c. are ready to be served up at the shortest notice, for the entertainment of General *Alvarez*, and his hectoring troops.

Last night a man deserted from *Prince's-lines*, where he was on guard.

20th. This forenoon arrived a ship from the West. Admiral *Barcello* is very quiet on the opposite side, nor has he endeavoured to run in any of the fireships among our fleet. Our men of war continue in motion, which very much disconcerts the enemy, in the plans they had adopted for their destruction. The fire ships which lay at *Cabritta*, are removed to *Algaziras*, where the *Spanish* squadron have hauled close under the land: The fire from their lines and isthmus continues without intermission, excepting from twelve to two o'clock at noon, when they rather slacken to cool their ordnance, at which time General *Eliott* takes the opportunity of relieving all the town guards.

21st. Wind N. E. This forenoon Admiral *Darby* made signal

* A small hollow globe of iron, filled with powder and fired by a fuze—these are thrown by the hand, and are of great annoyance in the field of battle.

signal for sail;—several vessels got under weigh from *Rosia*, and in the evening they were all out of sight. The *Spanish* towers, as usual, spread the alarm; the enemy discharged their ordnance with great fury, intimating that now our floating castles were departed, they had nothing to obstruct the exercise of their malignant rage. They have damaged our works in several parts, which we as carefully repair during the course of the night. We have not, as yet, lost many men in the execution of our operations. 1782. April.

The enemy continue their brisk fire on the garrison, and this day Lieutenant *Cunnyngham* of the 39th regiment was much wounded, it is imagined by the faculty, it will prove mortal. The following officers have been wounded since the enemy opened upon us: 23d.

Lieutenant *Boag*, Royal Artillery,
Ensign *Martin*, 39th,
Lieutenant *Budworth*, 72d,
Surgeon *Chisholm*, 56th,
And Surgeon's Mate *Kruger*, of *De la Mott's* Regts.
They are all in a fair way of recovery, except Surgeon *Chisholm*, who has had a leg amputated.

This day a thirteen-inch shell fired from the enemy's works, dropped in the *King's Bastion*, and wounded seven men; three of them in a very bad condition.—Our batteries are rather remiss in returning the fire, reserving the ammunition for other purposes. 24th.

Wind E. Arrived from *Minorca*, the *Brilliant*, *Porcupine*, 27th.

1781. April. *Porcupine*, *Enterprize* and *Minorca* frigates, two ſmall xebecs prizes, and ſixteen ſail of *Tartans* and ſettees, with a ſupply of wine, biſcuit, * caravances, &c. for government account. Admiral *Barcello*, no doubt, was deſperately enraged at the arrival of this unexpected convoy: After having looſed his ſails and made every appearance of putting to ſea, he fired a gun, which was anſwered at *Ceuta*, as a ſignal for them to keep a more ſharp look out to the Eaſtward—his ſails were then nimbly furled again.

Came in two deſerters from the enemy's Walloon Guards. They bring the intelligence that the *Spaniards* are expeditiouſly getting in readineſs ſcaling ladders, and all neceſſary equipments for an attack, and that in a few months we may depend upon being vigorouſly ſtormed both by land and ſea. This is looked upon as contemptible preſumption, for *Britons!* whilſt led on by veteran chiefs, and gallant heroes, will ever defend theſe envied battlements and walls from Spain's approaches, and compel them to return after all their pomp and parade, amidſt diſguſt, and diſappointment of the deſired glory. The enemy's gun and mortar boats came over laſt night, and fired upon the inhabitants retreats, and troops encampments; on this occaſion, a ſoldier's wife was killed, as ſhe was haſtily dreſſing herſelf in the tent, in order to ſeek ſome place of refuge. Some others were ſlightly wounded.

This

* A ſmall bean, about the ſize of a kidney-bean.

This morning, there being a calm ſea, the gun and mortar boats gave us a pretty ſmart fire. The garriſon and ſhipping kept up a briſk cannonade upon them, but unfortunately they killed one ſoldier, and wounded ſix others of different regiments. They fired between two and three hundred rounds. 1781. April.

At ten o'clock this forenoon, a party aſſembled at the lower extremity of the *Old Mole Head* (or *Devil's Tongue*) to make an experiment of reaching the *Spaniſh* camp, from two ſea-mortars planted there. The firſt ſhell we threw fell within a few yards of the Eaſt angle of their grand magazine, which ſeemed to fill the enemy with conſternation, not imagining it was practicable to have annoyed them in that part from the garriſon, the diſtance being 3056 yards. We threw ſeveral, which fell in different parts of their encampment—one burſt in the air about half way, the ſplinters of which were ſeen to fall near the ſhore, above the battery, (now called the *Black Battery*) on the right of *St. Phillipe*. It is reported, the intention of this is, to convince the enemy, that we ſhall be able to repay the compliment upon their encampment, whenever their boats viſit ours.

The ſouthward heights of the garriſon were lined with a number of the inhabitants, who willingly became ſpectators (out of the reach of danger) of the experimental exhibition, impatiently waiting the diſcharge; but when they perceived the ſhell fall upon the *Spaniſh* land, they repeatedly gave loud acclamations,

1781. tions, happy in their minds that we had found out a means of annoying the enemy's camp.

19th. Wind E. Laſt night ſailed the *Enterprize* and *Minorca* frigates, for *England*, with ſeveral other ſhips under convoy: The enemy have not detached any of their ſhipping from *Algeziras*, in purſuit of them. A ſignal was obſerved this morning on the tower, at *Cabritta*, which we imagine was intended to alarm the cruizers at *Cadiz*. Admiral *Barcello* ſeems leſs attentive in watching the port, as very few of his cruizers are out. From the land ſide we are plentifully ſupplied with ſhot and ſhells; their batteries continue raging nearly the whole 24 hours of each day: The enemy are profuſely liberal, and, with an unexampled generoſity repay the cannonade.

Yours, &c.

LETTER XX.

GIBRALTAR.

DEAR BROTHER,

1781. May 1. AMIDST the clamour of war, ſhells burſting, ſhot flying, and houſes burning, a continual ſcene of ſulphur, ſmoke, and fire; whenever I have any hours unemployed from duty, I dedicate them to your ſervice: Death ſtares me in the face every minute, and therefore what I write you may look upon as the ſincere ſentiments of my heart. The ſtreets of the

the town are like a defart, and almoſt every houſe ruin'd: burnt, or torn with ſhot and ſhells: In ſome parts the ſhot and broken pieces of ſhells are ſo thick, that in walking your feet does not touch the ground. The enemy have kept up a fire theſe twenty days paſt, and it is believed before they ceaſe, our ſmall arms will be buſily employed. The enemy's gun and mortar boats are firing from the bay; a ſhell which now burſt forced me to run with my papers in my hand, to avoid danger.—The groans of one in miſery has reached my ears.—I muſt haſte to his aſſiſtance. On my going to the other ſide of a traverſe, I found a ſoldier with both legs broke by a piece of the ſhell which occaſioned my retreat!—a miſerable ſpectacle. The gun boats are gone, having fired about three hundred rounds at the ſouthward. I don't hear of any particular damage done.

This forenoon a ſoldier was executed for plunder, at the place where the fact was committed, with a label upon his breaſt denoting the ſame. He was left hanging till ſun-ſet. 5th.

The gun and mortar boats paid us a general ſalute; the garriſon and ſhipping made a return:——happily not any damage was done. 6th.

This day the enemy made a ſhameful ſea-attack: after near two hours diſcharge of their ordnance, they triumphantly retreated to ſpread their great exploits and bold atchievements along their coaſt, without having 7th.

1781. May. ing thrown a shot or shell on shore. We imagine that they must have suffered considerably on the 8th from our fire.

The gun and mortar boats last night again disturbed us with their firing, but only damaged a few huts in our encampment. These nocturnal expeditions are of great annoyance to the garrison, as the duty of the soldiery is very fatiguing, being constantly on foot for six or seven days and nights together, and probably, when it comes to their turn to have a night to rest in, these common disturbers make their appearance. It is really lamentable that we cannot adopt a means of destroying them.

10th. Last night a man was discovered advancing in slow steps towards the garrison, on the road leading from *Bay-side* to *Lambert*, but when he came pretty near the advanced guard, he crawled upon his hands and knees; a *Hanoverian* serjeant on duty there, challenged him before he came as far as the work upon which he made a retreat. Lieutenant *Wilson* of the 58th regiment, immediately made a sally, and being pretty nimble, soon came up with him, but just as he was going to make a blow, he unfortunately fell into a shell hole, which gave the other time to push through *Bay-side*. A gold laced hat was picked up on the road, which makes us imagine that he was an officer in the enemy's service, who had come to view the situation of the place, and how far a detachment might advance in the night before they would be discovered. Our guards in

in the lines fired pretty briskly, and was very near killing our own officer. 1781. May.

The gun and mortar boats came over last night, and gave the camp a very brisk salute. Several people were killed and wounded. The *New Mole*, *Parson's Ladge*, *Buena Vista*, and *South Bastion*, fired remarkably warm upon them, but could not make them desist: When their ammunition was all expended they then took their leave. A shell from the *Mill Tower Battery* fell into a house at the back of *South Shed Guard*, by which a child was killed, and a man and two women wounded:—The man is in so dangerous a way, that his life is despaired of. I cannot close this account without informing you, that the mother of the above child, was killed on the 28th of April, by the fire of the gun boats, and that the husband is almost disconsolate for their loss. 26th.

This day two soldiers were executed at the *White Convent* for plunder. The town guards, by order of the Governor, marched past, while they were hanging. 29th.

This day another soldier was executed for the same crime. The General is a very humane man, but cannot overlook so great an infringement of martial law. It is amazing that men should sport away their existance for the gratification of their sensual appetites, as the crimes for which they all suffered, was for plundering the King's stores of provisions and liquor. I hope that these examples will be sufficient to deter the unthinking part from committing the same acts. 30th.

1781. The enemy's fire is not so brisk as at the first; they
May 1. are pretty moderate during the day, but at night play very freely: It is asserted they don't fire above sixteen or eighteen hundred rounds per diem. Since my last the following officers have been wounded:

Lieutenant *Willington*, Royal Artillery,
Lieutenants *Lowe* and *Thurton*, of the 12th,
And Captain *Faulis*, of the 73d regiments.

N. B. Lieutenant *Cunnyngham*, 39th regiment, died of his wounds the 6th instant.

We are in continual expectation of being stormed by the enemy, but we begin to be so inured to dangers, that the sound of it is no more regarded than an old tale. Wishing you every joy, peace, and contentment, I subscribe myself

Your affectionate Brother.

LETTER XXI.

GIBRALTAR.

DEAR BROTHER,

June 1. IT is all the pleasure I have to write to you and receive your answers. The enemy keep their usual warm fire on the garrison, and we are hourly waiting their assault. You are far out of the reach of danger, you may sleep contented, nor dread a vigorous fire of

thirteen

thirteen inch shells, and twenty-six pound shot, which here we are continually supplied and entertained with. I assure you the Dons, in this respect, evince a martial taste, and are beyond belief liberal.

Yesterday evening we made a prize of a *Neapolitan* brig. Our batteries fired at her, which obliged her to come in, she having received several shot. She is laden with flour, consigned to the enemy: We brought her into the *New Mole*.

This morning, at two o'clock, the *Spanish* gun and mortar boats came over, and fired upwards of three hundred rounds, and then retired; two soldiers were wounded, but not dangerously; they damaged several of the huts: We fired a number of shells which burst in the air over them. It is conjectured they must have suffered considerably. On the land side, the enemy fired excessive hard all the night, such repeated vollies that it was impossible distinctly to tell how many guns were discharged each time; they have greatly shattered our works, but they cannot abate our spirits, *Courage is the Briton's Prerogative.*

GARRISON ORDERS.

Provisions as usual, except that for one pound of beef three quarters of a pound of cheese will be issued weekly.

I

This morning the royal standard was hoisted on the ab. flag staff, and at noon we gave the enemy a ROYAL SALUTE with shot, in honour of his Majesty's birth-day. The *Spanish* working parties were busily employed

7th June. ed on the iſthmus, ſtrengthening and repairing their works.

9th. This morning, a magazine belonging to the enemy on the riſing ground under the *Queen's Chair*, took fire, conſiſting of ready prepared ſhells: There was a great exploſion, and it is computed near five thouſand ſhells were deſtroyed, beſides many lives loſt. It is incredible to believe the joy and tranſport exhibited by the *Britiſh* ſoldiery, while death mingled with the enemy.

11th. This morning a boat, under flag of truce, came over from *Algaziras*, to enquire the cauſe of our firing at a neutral veſſel yeſterday. It is currently reported that the General returned a *Britiſh* anſwer, "That "they muſt either keep out of the reach of his guns, "or bring to, if required." The enemy made another ſea-attack with their gun and mortar boats, but received a ſmart repulſe. I believe they did not reliſh our play, as we gave them a plentiful diſtribution of ſhells, which burſt over their heads. Not, any damage done on ſhore.

13th. This forenoon a flag of truce brought over the women and children that were taken by the enemy, in the ſhips that ſailed from hence the 29th April. They have detained the crews in order that they may have the leſs oppoſition when they make their attack.

GARRISON

GARRISON ORDERS. 1781.

"*Provisions from Monday next the 18th of June, till* June.
further orders.

Seven pound of Bread, four ditto of which will be soft, and three ditto of biscuit; one pound and half Beef, one pound Pork, twelve ounces Cheese, six ounces Butter, quarter pint of Oil, four pints of Pease, and three pints of Oatmeal, per week."

This morning the enemy's gun and mortar boats, 25th.
discharged about two hundred and fifty rounds, without effecting any other damage, than blowing up several huts and tents. The batteries most convenient to annoy them, played very briskly.

Wind E. Last night sailed a ship with several in- 26th.
valids, under the care of Captain *Colt*, 12th regiment, for *England*. The enemy it is imagined, did not perceive her going out.

The *Neapolitan*, mentioned the first of June, was condemned here, as a lawful prize, and agents are accordingly appointed until his Majesty's pleasure is known.

GARRISON ORDERS. 30th.

"*The same quantity and species of provision, to be issued next month, as last.*"

The enemy keep at work—they seem to be extending a branch towards the West shore. They continue the Siege by land, with as much fury as ever. Admiral *Barcello* occupies his old station, and views with

pleasure,

1781. June. pleasure, the excursions of his gun-boats. We are very busily employed every night repairing the damages done by their shot and shells. We have not had an officer wounded this month, but several non-commissioned officers and men killed and wounded.

I am,

Dear brother,

Affectionately yours.

LETTER XXII.

GIBRALTAR.

July 3. DEAR BROTHER.

THE enemy continue vigorously to bombard the garrison—They are making some additional fortification on the isthmus, either to shelter themselves, or to annoy us in a greater degree. Their military force does not appear to have received any reinforcement—We observe every night several detachments marching down to the lines, which we conjecture are to relieve the different guards and artillery parties.

Yesterday afternoon, about fifteen or sixteen sail of small craft arrived from the Westward at *Orange Grove*.

We

Part of the Coast of Spain
Lat. 37° N
Leagues
Lon. 0° W
5°
A Cape Trafalgar,
B Balbate,
C Tarifa,
D Algaziras,
E Carritta-Point,
F Isle of Tarifa,
G St Roque,
H Gibraltar,
I Europa Point,
K Cape Spartel,
L Tangier,
M Apes Hill,
N Alcasar Cequen,
O Ceuta,
P Ceuta Point.

We kept up a very hot fire laſt night upon the ene- 27th. July
my's mill battery, chiefly ſmall ſhells. Several carts, and a large body of men having been obſerved paſſing the Weſt angle of *St. Phillipe*, juſt at the cloſe of the evening, which we apprehended were for the execution of ſome work on the iſthmus.

The enemy's gun and mortar boats came over and 30th.
diſcharged very briſkly ſeveral rounds of ſhot and ſhell. They did not ſtay near their uſual time, which makes us imagine they have ſuffered from our burſting the ſhells over their heads.

Wind W. Arrived a xebec at *Algaziras*. The 13th.
ſmall craft that anchored at *Orange Grove* the 3d inſtant have been landing either ſtores or proviſions ever ſince: This morning they removed to *Algaziras*.

Laſt night we had ſeveral men killed and wounded by the enemy's land fire.

This morning a xebec and ſeveral galleys ſtood to 25th.
the Eaſt, two ſmall ſail having been obſerved there, waiting the change of the wind. It is not improbable but they are veſſels with ſupplies, bound from *Tetuan* to the garriſon.

Wind E. The xebec and cruizers have returned 27th.
without ſucceſs, to *Cabritta*, where they have anchored to keep a look out to the Eaſt.

Laſt night a veſſel ſailed from here, bound to *England* with diſpatches, mentioning all is well. The

1781. July. enemy's land fire is very ſlack, only now and then a few ſhot in the day—at night their diſcharge is moſtly ſhells.

20th. This morning two galleys brought into *Algeziras*, a large ſettee.—*Aicki Hamet*, a *Moriſh* butcher, ſays, ſhe is laden with cattle from *Faro*. This will be a great loſs to the garriſon, as we have not received a ſupply of freſh meat for ſome time, and there being very few cattle at preſent in the place. The freſh proviſion, which is ſold now, is pork, and that is very indifferent and ſcarce, being fed on the filth of the place, eight rials per pound, about three ſhillings and threepence ſterling.

23d. Very little fire from the enemy by land, theſe ſix days—they ſeem to be repairing their works, and we are as attentively employed upon our own.—Towards the bay all is quiet.

28th. The enemy have again roufed—Yeſterday and to-day they fired inceſſantly. Our batteries made but a trifling return, as it is almoſt madneſs to fire at their works, they being ſo thickly covered with ſand, that our ſhot finds very little penetration.

30th The enemy continue firing, and ſeem determined if poſſible, to batter down all our works—their gun and mortar boats again viſited us, without effecting any damage. We are really in a diſmal ſituation—between the land and ſea fire, we ſcarce dare cloſe our eyes. On your part you muſt not expect correct letters; the hurry

hurry of the times, the noiſe of mortars, howitzers, cannon and the burſting of ſhells, render the mind ſo confuſed that it would be a taſk; let it ſuffice that I am alive: That ſhot and ſhells are my near companions; that ſmoke, and wounded brother ſoldiers are conſtantly in view; that we have heavy duty, hard watchings, and little reſt; that our comforts are groans; that our nightly repoſe is turned to harraſſing alarms; that our paſtimes are deſtruction; that every hour, we or the enemy are inventing ſome horrid ſtratagem; and that the next we behold each other plunged thereby into the moſt excruciating anguiſh. 1781. July.

Such, dear Brother, are *Gibraltar* exhibitions, and perhaps while you are reading this, and feel a ſenſible pang at your heart for my ſituation, I may be performing my part with convulſive ſtruggles in this tragical ſcene.

You will think I indulge a brood of melancholy reflections, but believe me, I am as chearful as the God of mirth! amidſt camps, martial ſounds, and all the din of war, I find complacency in a reſignation to the will of God. If Death attends, I hope to receive my fate with a chriſtian fortitude, and meet honour with expanded arms. With the fulleſt ſenſe of brotherly affection, I ſubſcribe myſelf,

Sincerely yours.

LETTER XXIII.

GIBRALTAR.

DEAR BROTHER,

1781. Aug. 1. NOTHING material has taken place on the Isthmus;—the enemy are very attentive to the Siege, and keep up a well directed and regular fire. We loft ſeveral men yeſterday afternoon, by the fire from the *Black Battery*.

Gentle breezes at W. Laſt night the gun and mortar boats arranged in two ſeparate diviſions, briſkly poured into the garriſon about two hundred rounds of ſhot and ſhells. Our batteries, together with the *Repulſe* and *Vanguard* (which are anchored off the *New Mole Head*) gave them a generous return:—So briſk was the fire, that the bay appeared like a blaze, during the whole time.

3d. Wind W. This morning a boat ſtanding for the rock, was taken by the enemy's cruizers, and conducted over the way. We could not give her any aſſiſtance, ſhe being near two leagues diſtance.

5th. The enemy keep buſy at work, during the intervals our firing ceaſes, and having greatly ſtrengthened their advanced approaches. From their proceedings we are almoſt

almoſt poſitive they have other works in contemplation. On our ſide we have began forming ſome additional * embrazures on the hills. 1781. Auguſt.

GARRISON ORDERS.

"The ration of proviſions as laſt week, except that no Oil will be iſſued till further orders, and half a pound of Cheeſe will be delivered for the four ounces of Butter, in lieu of the quarter of a pint of Oil.

The ration now ſtands thus per Week.

Bread as uſual, one pound and half of Beef, one ditto of Pork, ſix ounces of Butter, ten ounces of Cheeſe, four pints Peaſe, three ditto Oatmeal."

This forenoon a ſail appeared in the offing, with little wind at Weſt. The *Spaniſh* watch towers hung out the ſignal of an enemy's appearance. Eighteen ſail of gun boats rowed out from *Algeziras*, and when ſhe had come within two leagues of the garriſon, it fell a dead calm, and the enemy raked her fore and aft ſhowering grape both upon her ſtarboard and larboard quarter. She plyed her guns briſkly, and I believe, would have been inevitably taken, had not Captain *Curtis*, naval commander, ordered the two gun boats, viz. the *Van Guard* and *Repulſe*, the former of ſix, and the latter of five guns, to be towed by the men of war's boats, towards the enemy, which they performed 6th.

* Holes in a battery through which the cannon are poſted.

1781. August. performed in a gallant and undaunted manner, notwithstanding the *Spaniſh* gun-boats directed their fire among them—When they had got within reach, the *Repulſe* diſcharged her guns, and as ſoon as the *Van Guard* came up, ſhe did the ſame, which prevented the enemy from boarding the veſſel—A xebec, cutter, and ſeveral double galley's co-operated and poured in a heavy fire, but could not cut her off from the garriſon. Her ſails we could plainly perceive, were ſo greatly torn with grape, that when the breeze ſprang up, ſhe could make but little way, but our boats having got a rope from her, they towed her under the walls. She proves to be the *Helena* ſloop, in ſixteen days from *Portſmouth*. Her main-maſt was ſhot through with a twenty-ſix pound ball; the boatſwain was killed, and one of the crew wounded: Such a warm engagement was never known in ſight of the garriſon, and we concluded that every ſoul on board muſt have been killed or wounded:—But *Britons* are ever brave, nor could the numerous ſwarm of cruizers the leaſt diſhearten the Captain, nor diſpirit the noble crew, who were determined, rather than yield to *Spaniſh* power, to periſh every man. When ſhe had come near enough for the garriſon to cheer (who in crowds had taken poſſeſſion of the walls and heights as ſpectators) an inceſſant ſhouting enſued, and huzzas that re-echoed from the rock and ſkies!

Such inſtances as theſe muſt conviſte the enemy that the ſpirit of *Britons* is unparalelled, and that no ſuperiority of power will make them yield. It muſt greatly

greatly cool their courage, and diſpoſſeſs them of all 1781.
hope of taking *Gibraltar*. August.

Thus *Albion's* ſons defy the hoſtile foe——
Dare ever to free and ſpurn all danger:
From ſhore to ſhore they ſteer with conqu'ring arms!
With *Britain's* royal enſigns ſpread abroad,
On whom the wond'ring nations gaze with pleaſure,
While George's enemies are ſtruck with dread——
Ye hectoring *Dons*, the *Britiſh* ſtandard view,
That bids defiance to your fleets and armies;
Nor let ambition lead you on to woe,
But ſtop! before we work your overthrow.

Wind E. Laſt night a ſettee from *Minorca* bound to 10th.
the garriſon, with ſupplies, was taken off *Europa*, by
the *Spaniſh* cruizers. The crew had juſt time, before
ſhe was boarded, to make their eſcape. The enemy
keep a tolerable briſk fire, and we continue to annoy
them from our batteries on the hill.

Laſt night, between eleven and twelve o'clock, the 16th.
enemy's gun and mortar boats, made an attack upon
the ſouthward—The garriſon and ſhipping returned
the fire, but unfortunately, during the action, we had
the loſs of one man killed and three wounded.

Wind W. During the courſe of the night, a ſchoon- 17th.
er got ſafe in from *Faro*, with ſundry ſupplies. They
bring an account that the enemy are buſy at *Cadiz*, in
equiping an armament to act againſt this place, and
are hourly in expectation of being reinforced with a
French ſquadron.

Laſt

1781. Aug. 19. Laſt night ſeveral guns were diſtinctly heard in the gut, from nine to eleven o'clock, which proved to be the enemy in chaſe of the *Kite* cutter, from *Gravesend*, arrived here ſafe this morning. She has brought diſpatches for our Governor.

23d. The enemy are diligently employed in lengthening their approaches on the iſthmus. Several ſtrong parties frequently appear, which we as regularly fire upon—From their *Black Battery*, Forts *St. Phillipe*, *Barbary*, and lines, they keep a hot and ſevere cannonade and bombardment—two ſoldiers killed this day.

28th. Laſt night, there being a ſmooth ſea, the *Spaniſh* gun and mortar boats came over from *Algaziras*, and fired very briſkly for the ſpace of two hours and upwards. The garriſon, ſhipping, and two advanced gun-boats or prams, made a very good return, but all ineffectual to prevent their annoyance.—A ſhell unfortunately fell into the artillery ward at Naval Hoſpital, and killed a matroſs, who was incapable of getting out of bed, owing to having his leg and thigh broke by the enemy's fire ſome time paſt, of which he daily languiſhed. The ſhell dropped by the ſide of his cradle, ſpitting forth its ſulphurous venom, and in that tormenting ſituation he was compelled to remain and wait the mercy of the exploſion. You may judge what muſt be his feeling, in that predicament, without friends, help, or ſtrength to make his eſcape from ſo irreſiſtable a foe: The inexpreſſible agonies he muſt have experienced during the ſhort interval of life, certainly were beyond the power of utterance, or the de-

lineations

leniations of a pen to give a juſt deſcription: After having uttered a few ejaculations to heaven, the unmerciful demon burſt in pieces, and extinguiſhed thoſe ſparks of life that were unexpired in the wounded man. 1781. Auguſt.

Nothing extraordinary this month from the land or ſea; every thing is perfectly quiet in reſpect to ſtorming us. The *Spaniſh* batteries continue their uſual fire, both from their lines and iſthmus. We expect every weſterly wind to behold the grand armament appear in the offing from *Cadiz*, to give the deciſive blow.—General *Eliott* has made every poſſible arrangement of ordnance, for a determined oppoſition, and, I hope, whenever the trial comes, that our arms will be crowned with victorious ſucceſs. 30th.

I am,

Dear brother,

Affectionately yours.

LETTER XXIV.

GIBRALTAR. Septem

DEAR BROTHER.

DEATH and ſlaughter continue to be our viſitants—on every hand impending ruin hourly awaits. The *Spaniards* keep up their uſual fire upon us, ſeemingly ſtudiouſly meditating our overthrow;

1781. Septem. not only the garrison of *Gibraltar*, but also the island of *Minorca*, has excited their attention. From this it is evident they are aiming at clearing the *Mediterranean* of His Britannic Majesty's land and sea forces, but it is hoped that their endeavours to effect these purposes, will fall short of the desired success.

5th. This forenoon a *Spanish* cartel brought over the Patron of the boat taken the third of August last, from whom we learn, that the *French* have landed an army on the island of *Minorca*, with an intent to work the reduction of that place, and it is currently reported in *Spain*, that the *Duc de Crillon* had commenced a bombardment there. Several wounded invalids was embarked on ship-board by order of the Governor, on their passage for *England*, the 3d instant.

The enemy are very busy on the isthmus employed at work, forwarding their labours—The tracts of several carts have been discovered on the sand, between the lines and *Mill Battery*, so that we imagine they were either bringing ordnance or materials for their batteries.

7th. Arrived from the eastward, a xebec and two galleys, they have anchored on the opposite side. The enemy's fire continues. Three men wounded this afternoon, by the explosion of a shell.

12th. This morning the *Spanish* squadron were dressed out with variety of colours, and at noon the forts, lines, and *Black Battery*, gave us a salute of twenty-seven guns

guns with ſhot: The troops in camp were arranged 1782.
in line, and fired a *feu de joye*, which they repeated Septem-
three times, together with the ſhipping at *Algeziras*. We cannot imagine the cauſe of this rejoicing, as it is not one of their ſaint's days.

Wind E. The invalids that were embarked under 16th.
the care of Lieutenant *Lowe* of the 12th regiment, ſailed laſt night to the Weſtward.

The enemy continue a briſk cannonade—We return the fire but moderately.

Laſt night the *Spaniſh* gun and mortar boats ſtole 18th.
over, and fired upwards of three hundred rounds of ſhot and ſhell—The garriſon and ſhipping kept up an inceſſant diſcharge of ordnance, but unluckily, during the action we had four men wounded.

Some time in the courſe of the night, a carcaſs fired from *Willis's*, upon the works on the iſthmus, ſet them on fire, which burnt for near an hour—We took this opportunity of making a furious return, which the enemy particularly acknowledged.

We diſcovered this morning, a new work, Weſt ſide of *St. Carlos*, extended towards the ſhore. It is not ſufficiently executed to form a judgment of the conſtruction.

A xebec and ſeveral cruizers ſailed this morning from *Algeziras* to the Eaſtward, where they are obſerved cruizing backwards and forwards, in expectation of meeting ſome prey.

Between

1781. Sept. 19. Between nine and ten o'clock laſt night, a ſhell fired from *St. Carles*, entered a houſe, leading down from *South-line-wall Guard*, were Majors *Mercier* and *Vignales*, of the 39th regiment, and Captain *Burke* of the 58th regiment, (Town-Major of the Garriſon) were ſitting at a Table, which fell upon the latter's thighs, and ſplaſhed them. The rubbiſh which dropped from the cieling, wounded the two Majors, and extinguiſhed the candle, ſo that all the light they had, was from the fuze of the ſhell. Major *Vignales* having put his hand over the table, found Captain *Burke* in a gore of blood, upon which he exclaimed to the other, "*Oh! Burke's killed.*" They then as haſtily as they could, owing to their wounds, and being in the dark, retreated to the door, which they had ſcarce accompliſhed, when the ſhell burſt, and toſſed the Town-Major from the place where he had fallen, to another part of the room, part of his fleſh was blown up to the cieling, and the walls beſpringled with his blood. In this mangled ſituation he was taken up, and carried to the Naval Hoſpital, where he ſhortly after expired. As the men were carrying him, he entreated in a languid tone, which indicated to a ſpeedy diſſolution, that they would kill him, and put an end to his miſery.

You will pardon me if I juſt draw the outlines of ſo worthy a character.

As an officer he was bold and vigilant—enterprizing and well-diſciplined. In his ſtation he was active and ſevere, ever attentive to the good of the ſervice, he ſtrictly

ſtrictly took cognizance of all neglects and irregularities that came to his knowledge, and brought ſeveral to condign puniſhment, as public examples. To do juſtice to his eminent abilities, my talents are far inadequate, I ſhall therefore leave it to ſome more able pen, who were intimate with him, and knew his private as well as public virtues. All I have to remark is, that he is a loſs to ſociety, to his country in general, and to this garriſon in particular.

While the attendants ſtrove to bind his wounds,
He patient gaz'd around, with quiv'ring eyes,
'Till wearied nature, ſinking with her load,
Reſiſted—ſtruggled—worn out with th'encounter,
Reſign'd her charge unto the tyrant Death;
His ſoul unfetter'd, unincumber'd fled,
To the bleſt manſions of eternal peace.

The enemy kept up a briſk fire, which was as ſpiritedly returned by our batteries, and when the above intelligence had reached the ſeveral poſts, revenge operated ſo powerfully that our canonade continued till the morning, very hot. We had ſeveral men wounded, during the night.

Sailed the *Helena* ſloop, and *Kite* cutter to the Weſtward.

This day between eleven and one o'clock, a ſoldier was executed for theft. He died ſeemingly ſenſible of his ſituation.

GARRISON

GARRISON ORDERS.

Sep. 20. "*Captain James Foulis of the 73d regiment, is appointed Town-Major, vice Major Burke deceased.*"

This day we had several men killed from the land fire—the enemy continue briskly at work, on the West side of *St. Carlos*.

GARRISON ORDERS.

21st. "*The ration of provisions from Monday the 24th inst. seven pounds of Bread, and half ditto Beef, one ditto Pork, six ounces Butter, twelve ditto Cheese, (in lieu of one pound Beef) three pints of Oatmeal, three ditto Peafe, one and quarter ditto of Wheat, in lieu of one pint of Peafe.*"

24th. Laft night the enemy's gun and mortar boats came over and fired near three hundred rounds, but moftly fhells—they did not do any confiderable damage to the fouthward. Our prams difcovered them pretty early, and made a very free return;—the firing from the garrifon at them, was chiefly from the *New Mole* and *South Baftion*—We took the advantage to fire during their ftay, into their camp, from the bottom of the *Devil's Tongue*. The enemy from the land fide, keep up the bombardment and cannonade, and are attentively employed at work on the ifthmus, in ftrengthening and advancing their lines of approach.

25th. Wind W. Arrived the *Flying Fifh* cutter, from *England*. A xebec chafed her under the garrifon guns, and exchanged feveral fhot with her, but could not prevent her from entering the port. During the courfe

of

of the night, the merlons (that have been heightened) of Fort *Barbara*, took fire, which occasioned the garrison to pour in a great quantity of shot and shells. 1781. Sept. 29.

A few small vessels arrived at the *Orange Grove*—It is likely they have brought provision for the *Spanish* camp, as their army must cause a great consumption in the province of *Andalusia*, which at best, is but poor and badly supplied with cattle.

The enemy have not ceased firing these five days, but have kept up a regular and determined cannonade: They have not killed and wounded many, though a person would think it impossible for a bird to escape, amidst such showers of shot. On the sea side all is quiet, nor has any shipping of force appeared either from East or West to molest us. The enemy are very tedious in commencing the storm, and really our expectation begins to tire. They have bombarded us now near six months, and General *Alvarez* is as far from taking possession of the garrison, as he was at first, although they have discharged from their batteries, according to the nearest calculation, between thirty and forty thousand rounds of shot and shells. He may view the rock with his perspective, from the camp of *St. Roque*, but if he wishes to examine the workmanship of the walls, and the strength of the fortification, he must come much nearer, or return without the gratification of his curiosity. 30th.

I remain,

Dear brother,

Affectionately yours.

LETTER

LETTER XXV.

GIBRALTAR.

DEAR BROTHER,

1781. Oct. 5. EVERY thing remains much in the same situation, as when I finished my last letter. Admiral *Barcello* and his squadron occupy the port of *Algaziras*, from whence now and then, a xebec or galley will occasionally push out, merely to command respect. We have not observed a signal on the *Spanish* towers at *Gibraltar* a long time, but we expect whenever the naval armament sails from *Cadiz* harbour, it will be immediately noised along the coast. The common salutation of each morning, is "*Which way do the wind blow?*" So anxious is every one to receive the foe.

GARRISON ORDERS.

"*Full allowance of Beef will be issued. The Governor allows each man a quarter of a pint of Vinegar per Week, till further orders, those in the hospital not included, as they are supplied with the quantity necessary by the Director; eight ounces of Cheese in lieu of four ounces of Butter as usual.*

7th. Very little wind at W. Last night the gun and mortar boats came over, and fired excessive brisk upon the

the ſouthward: the garriſon and ſhipping returned the ſame, but the enemy did not do any damage on ſhore. We fired ſeveral ſhells into their camp from *Old Mole Head*. The enemy keep working on the iſthmus, and maintain the cannonade with fury. 1781. October.

This day the enemy fired upon us with great warmth, which was as freely returned by the batteries upon the hill. Unfortunately during the time, a ſhell which burſt, killed Enſign *Stevens* of the 39th regiment—Several men were wounded by the ſplinters of ſhells. 10th

The *Flying Fiſh* cutter, which arrived here the 25th of September, ſailed unperceived by the enemy.

This day the enemy's line of battle ſhips ſailed to the weſtward. From this circumſtance, we conclude, that the fleet equipping at *Cadiz*, is deſtined to act againſt ſome other place, or there could not be any neceſſity to remove thoſe ſhips from this ſtation. On the land ſide the enemy keep up the fire, and this day it is reported, an additional mortar was mounted in *St. Carlos*. We fired very hot on their advanced works. 11th.

The enemy yeſterday afternoon, had ſome artillery practice in their camp, but we could not particularly make out the meaning, as we could only obſerve ſome ſmoak, and hear the report of the ordnance. On the iſthmus ſeveral working parties have appeared, which we continue to fire upon. 17th.

This day a hot cannonade was kept up on both ſides 20th.

1781. October. for many hours—Lieutenant *Tinlin*, Assistant Engineer, and four soldiers were wounded thereby. Our fire, apparently, put the enemy frequently in confusion, and several men were seen carrying on bearers along the shore, towards their camp.

21st. This day there was a general change of quarters with the soldiery—Those regiments quartered in town, marched and took possession of the southward encampments, and the others marched for the town district. Arrived a xebec from the West at *Algaziras*. The enemy as usual keep up the fire.

22d. This morning we discovered the enemy had finished a battery of six embrazures from *Mill Tower*, towards the West strand; which they began on the 18th September. It faces the *Old Mole* and *Waterport*, and is constructed on purpose for the annoyance of those posts. We fired very warm upon it from *Montagu's* bastion, and the upper batteries.

23d. Last night two soldiers deserted from us to the enemy; they cannot carry any intelligence that will prove prejudicial to the welfare of the garrison.

About two this afternoon, a great firing was heard in the gut—the *Spanish* towers had a red flag hoisted, and several gallies pushed from *Algaziras* to the westward.—We fear some unfortunate vessel destined for this place, has fell into the enemy's clutches.

24th. This day we had the pleasure to set the enemy's new work on fire, by howitzer shells from *Montagu's* bastion

tion, which occasioned the enemy to redouble their cannonade from their forts and lines—With much difficulty, danger, and loss, they got the fire extinguished. On our side we had some few wounded. 1781. October.

Last night the enemy covered the embrazures of their new battery, with sand and fascines; from this it is evident that the platforms for the cannon are not laid; it will therefore be some days before they can have them mounted for action. We give them a plentiful discharge of small shells, which must prove very disadvantageous to them in their proceedings. 25th.

A report is now received from the batteries, that a *Spanish* officer (as they could plainly perceive his uniform) was knocked off the *Mill Battery*, as he was standing upon the glacis, taking an observation of our works. There is not any doubt but he was an engineer, which will be a loss to the enemy, as they have some of the most celebrated for fortification now in their service.

A heavy fire all night from the *Black Battery*, forts, and lines. This day Lieutenant *Vicars* of the 56th regiment, received a wound. The gallies that sailed to the west the 2nd instant, have returned to their old station. 26th.

Wind W. About eleven this forenoon, a sail appeared standing for the bay. Two *Spanish* cruizers under *Ape's Hill* fired a signal gun, upon which eleven gun boats sallied out from *Algaziras*. When they came up with her, she opened her ports, and discharg- 30th.

1781. ed several rounds of grape, and continued firing till
Oct. she came pretty near *Europa*, where the enemy board-
ed her, and carried her off in triumph. She was an *English* cutter, and fought well, nor, according to opinion, would she have been captured had not the wind dropped. The enemy keep up a spirited fire from the land side.

31st. Last night arrived with a fresh breeze at West, the *Unicorn* cutter, and four other vessels from *Faro*, laden with fruit and poultry, a very seasonable and excellent supply, as the garrison are very much necessitated for vegetables, fruit, and fresh diet. The *New Mole* wharf, this morning, was quite crowded, every one being anxious to buy something, although the articles sold at an exhorbitant rate; onions sold for six rials per pound, two shillings and five-pence farthing, and oranges and lemons one rial eight quarts each, seven-pence halfpenny sterling, the poultry at the usual prices, viz. three dollars and an half for an hen. Common green tea, brought by the *Unicorn*, sold for fourteen dollars per pound, two pounds five shillings and six-pence, and loaf sugar five dollars, nearly seventeen shillings per pound. This is rare traffic! We hope these times will not last long, and a communication will be opened, so that supplies may be brought in and sold at a moderate price; or, should they continue, the garrison will, of course, be exhausted of all cash to support nature.

The enemy keep up a constant fire——Their works

on

the iſthmus are going forward, and their naval and mi- 1781.
litary force remains much the ſame. October.

This month is finiſhed without any great exploits, or coming to cloſe quarters.

I am,

Dear brother,

Affectionately yours.

LETTER XXVI.

GIBRALTAR, Nov. 3.

DEAR BROTHER,

THREE days more elapſed without any particular circumſtance intervening, nor has the enemy appeared to be ſo attentive to their labours. The Siege is continued by our opponents, who adopt every meaſure to diſtreſs us, notwithſtanding which, the *Britiſh* troops apparently, diſregard the threatning foe, who thunder forth their vengeance every hour.

The ſoldiery are very much afflicted with the ſcurvy, owing to the ſalt diet, and ſome of them ſo bad, that they have loſt the entire uſe of their limbs, and repreſent the picture of decripid old age. Our Governor has humanely ordered the Director of the hoſpital, to ſerve out daily to the ſurgeons of the ſeveral corps, one

pound

1780. Novem. pound of onions for every ten men, and two lemons or oranges for every man in the ſcurvy. This, it is hoped, will contribute greatly to their cure.

4th. The gun and mortar boats came over, and diſcharged all their ammunition upon the garriſon, while the land batteries took part in the cannonade. An inceſſant fire on every ſide continued for upwards of two hours, during which time, Enſign *Edgar* of the 56th, and Lieutenant *John Frazer* of the 73d regiments, were wounded—The latter loſt a leg by a ſhot from the *Black Battery*; ſeveral ſoldiers alſo were wounded.

Nine ſettees came from the Weſt, and anchored at the *Orange Grove*—We ſuppoſe them to be market boats.

9th. Yeſterday we fired from the garriſon at a *Daniſh* dogger, that come nearly under the guns, but could not make her come in. On the land ſide the enemy fired exceſſively warm, which was anſwered from *Willis's*, and the upper batteries. This morning we diſcovered that the enemy had erected another battery on the iſthmus, ſeemingly fronting our lines—They are determined to have a ſufficient number of pieces of ordnance mounted for battering our walls, whereas now they have ſo many, that a ſucceſſive diſcharge keeps up an intermiſſive fire.

23th. Wind W. Arrived at *New Mole*, the *Phœnix* ordnance cutter, with Brigadier-General *Roſs*, paſſenger. She had a bruſh with a cruizer at the entrance of the bay

bay, but not of any conſequence.—Her intelligence is 1781.
kept very ſecret. Nov. 13th

This forenoon a cutter from the weſtward was chaſed by a frigate, and three gallies, but before ſhe could reach the garriſon, ſhe was becalmed and boarded. She plyed her guns in a ſpirited manner, but the ſuperiority of power obliged her to yield. The enemy brought her into *Algaziras*, under her enſign reverſed.

A very heavy fire from the land batteries, directed towards the hills and town, during which we had the loſs of two men killed and three wounded.

A briſk fire from the lines and forts.—The enemy 14th.
worked very hard laſt night, on the iſthmus, and completed the battery they began on the 9th inſtant. We fired ſeveral thirteen inch ſhells upon them this morning.

This day a ſhell fired from *St. Carlos*, fell near 16th.
George Picardo's vineyard, where it burſt, but did not do any damage. A ſplinter of another, which exploded in the air, ſtruck the ſouth end of the naval hoſpital, which is near four-thouſand yards; a moſt incredible diſtance for pieces of ordnance to reach. The enemy fired very briſk upon our works from all the ordnance they have mounted; they did much damage to *Willis's Battery*, and wounded Lieutenant *Evans*, an aſſiſtant engineer, though not dangerouſly.

The

1782 Nov. 18th The enemy continue their long-range ſhells upon the ſouthward which is of great annoyance. Laſt night a ſhell fell under the platform of a tent where two corporals were aſleep, when the intolerable fume and ſtench of the compoſition awakened them, nor could they imagine from whence the ſmoke proceeded. The ſhell lay burning under the boards, when they opened the tent door to let in the air, to prevent being ſuffocated, at that inſtant it exploded, and blew them ſome yards, without receiving any injury, they ſhortly recovered from their ſurprize, and turned their eyes to the place where the tent had ſtood, but the bedding, blankets, tent-poles, &c. could not be ſeen, they being torn to pieces, and ſcattered in many places. In this naked ſituation they began a ſearch for their wearing apparel, but only found the cuff of a coat in one place, part of a ſleeve in another, and their ſhoes parched to a cinder. Thus forlorn they began to conſole each other, when Corporal *R-bo-n* exclaimed, "D—n it, I don't care for the loſs of my cloaths, but all my money is gone," he having about fourteen rials in his pocket, when he went to bed.

You probably will imagine that a man who had eſcaped ſuch imminent danger would not have let his mind be employed about the conſideration of worldly pelf; but the military gentlemen being conſtantly inured to danger, and expoſed to an inceſſant fire, think very little of preſervation; for ſhould a man keep death conſtantly in view, it would diſpoſſeſs him of every ſpark of heroiſm, and incapaciate him for the buſineſs of fighting.

Came

Came in two deſerters from the enemy's *Wallon-guards*, one of them is a corporal, and ſeems to be an intelligent man. He ſays there are twenty-one thouſand men in the camp, waiting the arrival of the naval power, to ſtorm this place. He has given the General a clear and exact deſcription of the works on the iſthmus, and the conſtruction of *St. Carlos*, together with an account of the ſtrength of their guards and working parties, that are employed daily. 1781. Nov. 21.

The enemy continue to throw their long * rangers. Laſt night a ſhell fell at the door of the barrack on the *Mole Parade*, where it burſt, forced the door open, and broke all the windows——The hand of providence was viſible in the diſcharge of this ſhell, for had it been a yard more to the left, it muſt have fell into the barracks, where two companies of ſoldiers are quartered.

The long rangers ſtill viſit the South—One fell in Colonel *Cochrane's* quarters on *Scud-hill*, but did not do any damage: Another near the magazine on the *Mole parade*, and ſeveral into the *Mole yard* and within the boom. We keep a conſtant fire upon their works, but they are ſo well intrenched that we cannot ſilence them. 23d.

The enemy keep rattling away with guns and mortars, and ſeemingly take a pleaſure in reaching the ſouthward 26th.

* A phraſe made uſe of by the ſoldiery, for the incredible length the enemy throw their ſhells.

1781. Novem. southward. Several ſhells have fell this forenoon about *South Shed*, and *Princeſs of Wales's* lines—They cannot reach further only when there is a ſtrong northerly wind, which forces the ſhell with a greater velocity—We fired ſeveral times at their working parties on the iſthmus.

This evening the garriſon were highly delighted with the general orders—It is whiſpered, that the information given by the corporal that came in the 21ſt inſtant, has induced the Governor to make a trial of *Britiſh* valour.

EVENING GARRISON ORDERS.

" *All the grenadiers and light infantry, and all the men of the* 12*th, and Hardenberg's regiments, officers and non-commiſſioned officers, now on duty, to be immediately called in and join their regiments, to form a detachment, conſiſting of the* 12*th, and Hardenberg's regiments compleat—The grenadiers and light companies of all the other regiments (who are to be completed to their full eſtabliſhment from the battalion companies) one captain, three lieutenants, ten non-commiſſioned officers, and one hundred artillery, three engineers, ſeven officer overſeers, twelve non-commiſſioned overſeers, and one hundred and ſixty workmen from the line, excepting from the* 12*th and Hardenberg's regiments, and forty workmen from the artificer company—Each man to carry thirty-nine rounds or more, a good flint in his piece, and another in his pocket—No drums, except two with the* 12*th, and two with Hardenberg's—No ſwords—The whole to aſſemble on the Red Sands at twelve o'clock this night—The wine houſes to be ſhut*

ſhut up at ſix o'clock, and all the ſoldiers to repair to their quarters—Brigadier Roſs to command the detachment—No volunteers will be allowed——Lieutenant-Colonels Dackenhauſen, Hugo, Trigge, and Major Maxwell to meet the Governor at the Field Officers room, at the South, as ſoon as poſſible. The troops intended for the Sortie to be formed as follows: 1781. Novem.

RIGHT. Lieutenant-Colonel *Hugo*, Grenadiers of *Reden's* and *La Mott's*, Workmen, Artillery, *Hardenberg's* Regiment, Light Company 56th Regiment.

CENTRE. Lieutenant-Colonel *Dackenhauſen*, Grenadiers and Light Company 39th and 73d Regiments, Workmen, Artillery, Grenadiers of the 56th and 58th Regiments, Major *Maxwell*.

LEFT. Lieutenant-Colonel *Trigge*, Grenadiers and Light Infantry 72d Regiment, Seamen, Artillery, 12th Regiment, Light Company of 58th Regiment.

This morning at two o'clock, the detachment of officers, non-commiſſioned officers and men, under the command of Brigadier *Roſs*, marched from the *Red Sands*, where they had aſſembled, through *Boy-ſide* and lower *Forbes's*, to ſtorm the enemy's advanced works—The word *ſteady*, was the counterſign. The *Spaniſh* centinels poſted in the gardens, ſoon diſcovered the *Engliſh* troops advancing, upon which they fired their muſquets to ſpread the alarm, and then retreated to *St. Carlos*. The *Britiſh* army, in a ſpirited and intrepid manner, ruſhed on, and after ſome oppoſition, gained 27th.

1781. Novem. poſſeſſion of the *Spaniſh* works, which ſtruck ſuch a panic to the enemy, that the greateſt part ſtationed to defend the place, fled with conſternation to the lines, to make a poſition of defence, not apprehending ſo unexpected a viſit, while the others fell from the fire of our muſquetry. The buſineſs now commenced, the workmen and ſeamen began with their * tomahawks, † devils, and warlike combuſtibles, to ſet the batteries on fire, while the artillery ſpiked up ten mortars, and eighteen pieces of cannon, during which one of the former happened to go off, and ſent a ſhell to the ſouthward; in a few minutes the iſthmus appeared an entire blaze, and the reflection of the light was ſo great, that a perſon might have peruſed a book upon our batteries. Thus ſucceſsful, the whole body gave three huzzas, which conſequently muſt ſenſibly aggravate and vex the foe. We kept up a hot cannonade from the garriſon, upon their two forts and *Brear-gate*, to cover our men, and prevent their ſallying out. A regiment of horſe appeared near Fort *Barbary*, but after they had made ſeveral feints to come on, they thought prudent to retire. The enemy fired upon the detachment with round and grape, but their cannon for want of being ſufficiently depreſſed, had not the deſired effect, as moſt of the ſhot flew over our people's heads. Our gallant and vetran Governor, accompanied by Captain *Curtis*, went out to be an eye witneſs of the tranſaction:

* Small hatchets, having a ſharp point on the back.

† An inflamable compoſition bound in ſmall bundles, which after the bands of the faſcines are cut, are ſtruck in between the openings.

tion :—He had a ſword ſlung over his ſhoulder, and when the buſineſs was fully accompliſhed, he ſmiled, and ſaid to the men, "*Look round, my boys, and view how beautiful the rock appears, by the light of this glorious fire.*" Captain *Witham* of the Artillery, then came to him, and with all the gracefulneſs of a warrior, preſented him the keys of the *Spaniſh* magazines, which had been taken from the officer commanding *St. Carlos*. The detachment having done all that men could do, retreated to the garriſon, with the ſatisfaction of deſtroying in fifteen minutes, a work eſtimated at one million of dollars, bringing with them priſoners, one ſub-lieutenant of Walloon Guards, (Baron *Helmſtat*) one ſub-lieutenant of Artillery, and ten men; with the ſmall loſs on our ſide of four men killed, one officer, (Lieutenant *Tweedie* of the 12th regiment, who received a grape ſhot in his thigh) two ſerjeants, and twenty-two men wounded; and one man miſſing. The enemy had only recovered their ſurprize, and beat to arms, when the detachment was repaſſing of *Land-port-gate*, ſo that you will ſay we were expeditious in deſtruction. 1781. Novem.

The General expreſſed the greateſt approbation of the officers and men, which you will perceive by the following

GARRISON ORDERS.

"*The bravery and conduct of the whole detachment, officers, ſeamen and ſoldiers, on this glorious occaſion, ſurpaſſes the Governor's utmoſt acknowledgment.*"

Strength

STRENGTH of the DETACHMENT that made the SORTIE.

		Officers.	Non-commiſ. Officers.	Drummers.	Rank and File.
RIGHT. Lt. Colonel *Hugo.*	*Rodin's* Grenadiers.	5	7	0	71
	La Mott's ditto.	3	7	0	71
	Workmen and Artillery.	5	4	0	50
	Hardenberg's Regiment.	16	34	2	296
	56th Light Infantry.	3	3	0	57
CENTRE. Lt. Col. *Dachenhausen,* Major *Maxwell.*	39th Grenadiers. - -	3	3	0	57
	39th Light Infantry. -	3	3	0	57
	Workmen and Artillery.	6	8	0	150
	73d Grenadiers. - -	4	5	0	101
	73d Light Infantry. -	4	5	0	101
	56th Grenadiers. - -	3	3	0	57
	58th ditto. - - -	3	3	0	57
LEVT. Lieut. Col. *Trigge.*	72d Grenadiers. - -	4	5	0	101
	72d Light Infantry. -	4	5	0	101
	Seamen. - - - -	3	10	0	100
	12th Regiment. - -	26	28	2	430
	58th Light Infantry. -	3	3	0	57
	Total	98	136	4	2014

STATE of the GARRISON at the time of the SORTIE.

	Colonels.	Lt. Colonels.	Majors.	Captains.	Lieutenants.	Enfigns.	Chaplains.	Adjutants.	Quar. Maſters.	Surgeons.	Mates.	Serjeants.	Drummers and Fifers.	Rank and File.
Detachment compoſed the SORTIE.	1	3	3	23	58	14	0	3	0	0	2	136	4	2014
Sick and wounded. - -	0	0	0	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	28	0	557
Remaining. - - - -	5	5	5	48	73	31	3	7	8	9	14	277	179	2451
Total of the Garriſon.	6	8	8	72	132	46	3	10	8	9	16	441	189	5022

N. B. Brevet Majors are included as Captains; non commiſſioned officers of Artillery as Serjeants. Forty-one Drummers and fifty-one private, of what remained in the Garriſon, were boys.

CASUALS in the different Corps in the before-mentioned SORTIE.

CORPS.	Killed.				Wounded.				
	Officers.	Serjeants.	Drummers.	Rank and File.	Officers.	Serjeants.	Drummers.	Rank and File.	Missing.
R. Artillery.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
12th Regiment	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	1	0
39th ——	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
56th ——	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
58th ——	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
72d ——	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	2	0
73d ——	0	0	0	2	0	1	0	11	0
Hardenberg's	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Roden's —	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
La Motte's —	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
Artificer comp.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	5	0
Seamen.									
Total	0	0	0	4	1	2	0	22	1

The enemy's works burnt very furiously all yester- 1782
day afternoon and evening, and are still on fire. They Nov.
last night, fired very warm with grape shot, on the 28th
isthmus, supposing we were again advancing, until a shell discharged from the upper batteries on *St. Carlos*, convinced them that we had not any men there. A large body of men yesterday evening marched from their camp to the lines, to reinforce the different posts, apprehending we should pay them a visit in that quarter.

GARRISON ORDERS.

"*The Adjutant General having laid before the Governor the following note from Brigadier General Ross, he is pleased to direct that the same shall be inserted in the orders of the day.*

"*Brigadier Ross begs of the Adjutant-General that he would mention to the Governor his most humble request, that his Excellency would be pleased to accept of the Brigadier's warmest acknowledgment of the great honor conferred on him, by commanding the detachment that formed the Sortie. To the Officers, and every one of whom, he would wish to make the most* public avowel *of their firm good behaviour upon this occasion.*

The enemy yesterday and to-day have been viewing 30th.
the ashes of their late works, and with penitential tears, moaning their irretrieveable loss, and endless disgrace. We keep up a smart fire at present, and it is asserted, that it will be continued to prevent the enemy from repairing the damage their batteries have received. General *Alvarez*, there is not any doubt

1781. Nov. 30 will ſtudy miſchief in retaliation, and exert all his intellectual faculties in the promotion of plans, projects, ſtratagems and inventions, to gain revenge; but while ſucceſs ſmiles upon our arms, and glory ſounds from ſhore to ſhore, the tranſporting melody inſpires with deſperate animation, and invigorates the warrior's zeal to ſuch a degree, that fleets, armies, camps, garriſons, forts, batteries and intrenchments, with all the hoſtile pomp and threatnings of the foe, are diſregarded, and ſtamped with contempt.

I am,

Dear Brother,

With the greateſt affection,

Yours, &c.

LETTER XXVII.

GIBRALTAR.

Dear BROTHER,

1781. Dec. THE enemy have not began repairing their late approaches, but ſeemingly intend it, as ſeveral parties unarmed frequently make their appearance.—They return a ſpirited fire from their lines and forts, but their iſthmus bombardment, *alas! is over.*

7th Wind S. W. This day, an *Engliſh* cutter was captured, by the enemy's gun boats, after an hour's ſpirited fire on both ſides. She crouded all the ſail ſhe poſſibly could, but the wind having dropped almoſt to a calm, the garriſon and ſhipping were incapable of aſſiſting her.

Wine

Wind E. This forenoon two frigates (one French and one Spaniſh) arrived from the Eaſtward at Algaziras; and this afternoon about a dozen large ſettees arrived at the *Orange Grove*. The enemy have done nothing particular on the iſthmus. 1781. Dec. 9.

This morning we perceived the *Spaniards* had begun repairing the ruins of *St. Carlos*, and that ſeveral parties were buſily employed. We accordingly diſcharged a conſiderable quantity of grape ſhot and ſmall ſhells upon them which made them deſiſt from their labour. 11.

A ſmall ſloop was this forenoon taken off *Tariſa*, by a galley and three gun boats. It is likely that ſhe was bound for this place.

Wind N. E. Yeſterday evening ſailed from hence, the *Phœnix* and *Unicorn* cutters, bound for *England*---The enemy either did not obſerve them, or otherwiſe did not think them worth the purſuit. 16th.

The *Spaniards* occaſionally labour at repairing their works, but as ſoon as they obſerve the flaſh of our ordnance, they immediately get under cover, but we endeavour to annoy them with our ſmall ſhells, which drop into their works, and then burſt.—Theſe conſequently muſt be fatal to them, as their traverſes were all conſumed, together with the gabions and faſcines of all their advanced works. 17th

Wind W. During the courſe of the night, two *Engliſh* veſſels arrived with ſupples of butter, potatoes 20th.

1781. Dec. 20th. and beef, from *Portſmouth*, having had a paſſage of twenty days. They bring intelligence that the day before they left *Faro*, they heard the account of the victorious ſally from the garriſon, papers having been received there, upon the intereſting ſubject.

Several bundles of faſcines were brought from the lines to the iſthmus laſt night, and the ſand thrown up in many places. The enemy apparently have forgot their defeat, and that they ever had erected advanced works; or ſurely the recollection would prevent them from any further attempt to conſtruct others in their place.

21ſt. Laſt night, it being a briſk lavanter, Major General Roſs (appointed to that rank by His Majeſty's command, and declared in the Garriſon orders of yeſterday) ſailed from cence on his paſſage to *Portugal*, from whence he will take ſhipping for *England*, where there is not the leaſt doubt but he will be received with eclat, and every mark of approbation, from a rewarding nation, for his bravery and ſingular ſervice on the 27th of laſt *November*.

The *Spaniards* are very buſy on the iſthmus, and have repaired a great part of the ruins of their late works:——They ſeem determined on their re-conſtruction, notwithſtanding our heavy and ſpirited fire from *Willis*'s and the upper batteries. The *Black Battery* and *Fort St. Phillipe*, kept up an inceſſant cannonade all this morning upon the garriſon.

Wind

Wind E. Arrived a frigate, ſloop, cutter, and ſe- 1781.
veral xebecs from the eaſtward, and anchored between Dec. 28.
Orange Grove and *Algaziras*. A ſettee was taken off *Ceuta* point, by a galley, and carried in there.

Wind W. N. W. Paſſed by a convoy of neutrals, 29th.
in all about 30 ſail.---The enemy hoiſted a ſignal at *Cabritta*, not knowing who they were, upon which a xebec went out and ſpoke to them.

This morning early, died in the naval hoſpital, Ba- 29th.
ron *Helmſtat*, taken priſoner at *St. Carlos*, on the 27th laſt month, and who ſince had a leg amputated, owing to a wound he received by a muſquet ball in that action. The corps was dreſſed in full uniform, according to the *Spaniſh* cuſtom, and the General and principal officers, walked in ſolemn proceſſion, to the *New Mole*, where a flag of truce waited to convey the body to the *Orange Grove*: A band of muſic playing a dirge, and a company of grenadiers, eſcorted the decorated bier to the water's edge, and upon the corps being lowered into the boat, the latter fired three volleys in honor of the deceaſed. The coffin had all that art and ingenuity could invent, to render it elegant, which muſt ſenſibly pleaſe the enemy, when they conſider the reſpect paid by the Governor to this fallen officer. He was young, handſome, and on the point of nuptial celebration with a beautiful lady, born in the province of *Andaluſia*, and who during his ſickneſs, had furniſhed him daily (by flags of truce) with wine and other refreſhing diet which this garriſon could not

afford;

1781. Dec. 29th. afford; but the day before his departure, she came half bay over, (hearing of his dangerous situation) to visit him, and take her last adieu! but the Adjutant General, who went out to receive the flag of truce, assured her, she could not be permitted to land until the Governor's pleasure was known, and that the next day he would wait upon her with his Excellency's commands; instead of which she received the lifeless trunk of him on whom her every wish and happiness was founded.

30th. The enemy are diligently repairing the works on the isthmus.—a shell fired from *Willis*'s, this day, fell among a party of their workmen, about 50 or 60 in number, which we have the greatest reason to believe, did considerable mischief. The *Spanish* forts and lines continue the cannonade and bombardment. One soldier killed and two wounded, this day by the explosion of a shell.

31st. A brisk fire on both sides continues, and the enemy keep constantly at work.—A strong party are employed near the centre-stone Guard-house, erecting a battery. The naval force remains quiet, nor have we been troubled with the gun and mortar boats some time past.

This year has finished without giving the decisive stroke, though it has been successful on our part, and crowned our arms with glory and conquest. I hope that

that in the next we ſhall be equally victorious, and convince the enemy, that *Britons* ſcorn controul.

I remain,

Dear Brother,

Affectionately yours.

LETTER XXVIII.

GIBRALTAR.

DEAR BROTHER,

AS all my letters are intended for your information, I ſhall endeavour as far as I am able, to give you a deſcription of this envied and battered Rock, which has excited the whole attention of *Spain* and *France*. 1782. Jan. 28.

GIBRALTAR is in 36 degrees and 7 min. north latitude, it projects into the ſea, and is in length near a league from north to ſouth, in breadth irregular from half to 3-quarters of a mile, its head is frequently hid in the clouds. The ſummit of the rock is about 1400 feet perpendicular above the ſea. It is joined to the continent by a neck of low and deep ſand of the ſame breadth as the rock itſelf, but which widens conſiderably towards the *Spaniſh* lines. This iſthmus is near a league in length and with the oppoſite coaſt of *Spain*, forms a noble and ſafe bay eight miles over. The hill is of ſuch an irregular form, that when you are near it you cannot view the whole from any one part. Its

head

1782. Jan. 1st. head clearly faces the East, from thence to the *Mooriſh-Caſtle* it fronts the North, forward as far as the *Signal-Houſe*, the North-weſt, it then takes a turn and continues to *Europa Point*, due South. On account of this oblique ſituation when you approach the town from the inundation you can ſee no further of the rock than the *Mooriſh Caſtle*, and even in town your ſight is bounded by the old *Mooriſh wall* [called by ſome *Charles* the fifth's] After you have paſſed *Southport-gate*, and got upon the red ſands, the town is hid from you, and all the hill to the North of the *Signal-houſe*. The back of the hill is ſcalped and inacceſſible, and this particular circumſtance forms its chief ſtrength. The head of the rock is almoſt perpendicular, and compoſed of white ſtone which is burnt for lime. The batteries facing the iſthmus are very ſtrong and ſnug, which are carried on from the ſummit of the rock, to the water's edge at the *Old Mole*. the extremity of which the *Spaniards* term *una Bocca de Fuge*. The remains of the Mooriſh caſtle are cloſe to the batteries, at which place is the entrance into the lines; above the lines is *Willis's* and the upper batteries. Under the caſtle are two batteries near *Crouchett's* houſe and garden, lower down and almoſt level with the water is the Grand battery, under which is *Landport*. Above the ruins of the towns appear the walls of the army hoſpital from which you have a view of the remains of *Bethlehem* barracks, formerly a Nunnery, the *White Cloiſters* where the commiſſioners of the navy uſed to reſide, formerly a monaſtry, and *St. Francis* where the Governor reſides: The building, before the enemy fired, was plain

was plain, more convenient than elegant, but pleasantly situated near the bay, with a garden adjoining. The *British* church is adjacent to this building, but now divine service is performed on the *South Parade*, on account of the enemy's cannonade. The *Spanish* church for the performance of the Roman Catholic Religion, was near the *Grand Parade* in the *Green Market*, the walls of which are yet standing. The inhabitants and soldiers repair to church by the beat of a drum. Near *South-port* stands the King's yard, Grand store, and Victualling office, which notwithstanding the enemy's bombardment, has not sustained any considerable injury. Above *South-port* on the outside of the gate, is the citadel. The garrison is bounded by strong walls, and several well-executed batteries, particularly the *King's*, *South*, *Montague's Bastion*, and *Grand Battery*. The *King's Bastion* is able to contain one thousand men, being bomb proof, and is of a noble construction planned by General *Boyde*, when governor of the garrison. 1782. January

The entrance to the garrison from the isthmus, is so narrow, that it is impossible to march an army more than six men abreast; and which passage is * undermined, so that if necessity should require it, to be charged with barrels of powder, and sprung, the besiegers would suffer considerably, and be thrown into

* A mine is a hole dug, to be filled with powder to blow it up, but this is built of brick, and arched over, so that the explosion would be the greater.

1782. January. the greateſt confuſion, There are ſeveral pieces of cannon directed upon this path, loaded with grape ſhot, which would ſcour the whole length, and cut off the aſſailants as faſt as they advanced. The cannon placed at the *Old Mole-head*, being level with the water, would ſweep the whole iſthmus; beſides other pieces of ordnance placed in advantageous ſituations for the purpoſe of flanking. *

The principal buildings to the ſouthward are, the *Naval Hoſpital*, now occupied by the ſick ſoldiery and ſeamen; the *Barracks* for the troops, and two *Pavilions* for the officers; they are chiefly built of ſtone, and extremely well ſuited for convenience; the rooms are large and airy, and have a very handſome appearance from the bay.

Near the *New Mole* are two magazines for powder, where it is lodged when landed from the ſhips, and as it is wanted, removed from thence to the *Grand Magazine* in the *Moriſh Caſtle*. Near them is a pleaſant vineyard, of a ſmall length, which yields a great quantity of vegetables, but not ſufficient to ſupply a ſixteenth part of the garriſon. It is ſuppoſed that the owner clears five thouſand dollars per annum by it.—There are ſeveral houſes on the heights, that have been built by the officers and inhabitants, which command a delightful proſpect of the bay and the gut; in ſhort, moſt of the ſouthward is covered with ſmall and convenient dwellings.

I

* In military affairs, is the ſide of an army or battalion.

I cannot close this description without informing you that the water, which is drank by the garrison, is the rain which descends from the heights of the rock, through a body of sand and lime stone, into a reservoir; this contains the annual supply till the rains again come on, which is towards the latter end of the year. The shipping are supplied from this reservoir, by the means of pipes, which communicate near the sea, where there is a small cistern with spouts. The faculty agree in opinion that it is good wholesome water. 1782. January

The following is the STATE *of the* STRENGTH *of the several* CORPS *now here,*

CORPS.	*Strength*	CORPS.	*Strength*
Royal Artillery -	480	73d - -	811
12th - -	469	Hardenberg's -	345
39th - -	348	Reden's - -	347
56th - -	450	La Mott's -	356
58th - -	450	Artificer's Company	89
72d - -	811	Total	5056

Wind East. This morning early the *St. Philip's Castle* arrived here from *Mahon* with dispatches, having twenty-two *Spanish* prisoners on board, taken by the *English* in a sally made from that place. They say that General *Murray* is very closely besieged, and that the forces under his command, make the most stubborn opposition against both the *French* and *Spanish* who lay before the castle. 4th.

The enemy on the isthmus keep repairing their works, and have got a great part rebuilt. The fire on each side

1781. January. ſide briſkly continues, but moſt ſpirited from the cloſe of the evening until the dawn of the morning, as the chief part of their labours are executed during the night ſeaſon.

8th. A xebec arrived from the eaſtward this forenoon, and anchored oppoſite *Sandy Bay*. The working parties on the iſthmus have not done any thing particular ſince the 4th inſtant.

10th. Laſt night the *St. Philip's Caſtle* ſailed to the eaſtward, and a ſmall boat for *Tetuan*, in order to fetch ſupplies. All quiet in the Bay: We cannot imagine the reaſon that the enemy are not ſo alert and attentive as they were.

13th. Wind E. Sailed the *Henry* and *Mercury* privateers to the weſt. None of the *Spaniſh* cruizers went in chace of them. The enemy threw up a branch of ſand-bag work laſt night upon the iſthmus.

16th. This day two cutters made their appearance in the Gut. Wind N. E. The tower at *Cabritta* let fly a ſignal, upon which the *Spaniſh* ſquadron got in motion conſiſting of a frigate, one large xebec, one ſmaller ditto, and ſeveral gun boats, who ſtood acroſs to intercept them. The gun boats got a-head and diſcharged ſeveral ſhot at them, which the cutters returned, and kept their courſe, ſtanding for the eaſtward, it being impracticable to work into the port, as the wind blew right againſt them. The *Spaniſh* cruizers went in chace, and are now all out of ſight. The works on the iſthmus are going forward.

Antonio

Antonio Juanico a *Minorquen*, convicted of being a spy, is ordered for execution on the 4th of February ensuing. 1782. Jan. 17.

The enemy fire upon us with great fury, to prevent our annoying their working parties. Several wounded this forenoon.

This day being the anniversary of Her Majesty's birth-day, the Royal standard was hoisted on the flag-staff, and a salute of shot and shell fired on the enemy. 18th.

The town and southward regiments exchanged quarters this morning, to continue three months, before another exchange takes place, unless circumstances should make it necessary. 20th.

The isthmus parties are laboriously employed in forwarding their works, and an incessant fire is kept up from the *Spanish* lines and forts, upon our works and parties on the hill, as we are repairing the breaches made, and constructing some additional fortification, to shelter our men, and to destroy, if possible the enemy's approaches. 23d.

Pleasant weather. The enemy appears to be busy at *Algaziras*, and in the rivers. We imagine they are constructing additional gun-boats there, to cooperate with those they already have. Isthmus working parties continue nightly to be employed. 26th.

Wind

1782. Jan. 29. Wind S. E. The two cutters chaſed to the eaſtward by the enemy on the 16th inſtant, got in early this morning: They prove to be the *Viper* and *Lively*, laden with ordnance ſtores; alſo arrived the *Dartmouth Tartar* cutter, laſt from *Liſbon* in three days with diſpatches. A frigate, xebec, and ſome gun boats have returned from their vain purſuit in chaſe of the *Viper* and *Lively*, mortified with having miſſed their eager prey, and anchored at their old ſtation, watching every ſail that appears in ſight. The enemy are preparing ſeveral fireſhips at the mouth of the rivers between *Algeziras* and *Orange Grove* but for what purpoſe we really cannot conjecture, without it is for paſtime, and the recreation of their naval and land forces, by reminding them that they are inclinable to do miſchief, though incapable of effecting it. Our ſhipping are all boom'd in, and without they intend to burn the cleſts of the rocks, and ſet our ſandy beach on fire, they had better keep their preſent diſtance, nor unthinkingly ruſh on, where certain ruin muſt be the inevitable conſequence. Our garriſon are pretty healthy conſidering the hardſhips, dangers, and ſcarcity of freſh diet, which at preſent prevails; but of late, they have been very much afflicted with the moſt inveterate ſcurvy, which deprived a great many of the uſe of their limbs, by rendering them ſtiff and ſwelled---The fleſh of the ſufferers, I aſſure you, was almoſt black, and you would pity, (were you a ſpectator) to view them limping to their poſt to partake of a ſhare of their comrades, in oppoſing the foe. With every good wiſh, permit me to ſubſcribe myſelf

Your loving Brother.

LETTER XXIX.

GIBRALTAR. 1782. Feb. 1.

DEAR BROTHER,

THE beſiegers ſpurred on by hope and expectation, to work the reduction of the fortreſs, are indefatigably employed in forwarding the re-conſtruction of *St. Carlos*, and the adjacents. From their batteries they continue a plentiful diſcharge of ordnance, by which we now and then loſe a man. We anxiouſly long for the day of attack, as our ſituation is rather deplorable in reſpect of proviſion, and the harraſſing duties of guards, picquets, working detachments and parties, forwards the general wiſh for engagement.—The conſtant duty with the ſoldiery is ten and eleven days and nights up, and probably when it comes to your turn to have a night to ſleep in your tent, the enemy from the ſea line diſturbs you from that repoſe, but thank God we have not been much interrupted from that quarter of late.

Price of Proviſion brought by the Viper and Lively cutters, on the 29th of laſt month.

	£.		
Common Green Tea per pound	1	1	0
Hams per pound, - - -	0	3	2
Corn'd Beef ditto - - -	0	1	8
Port Wine per dozen - -	1	14	5
A Sheep - - -	14	1	0
Cheeſe per pound - -	0	4	10 ½
Butter ditto - - -	0	4	10 ½

The

1782. 4th. The enemy carry on their works in a rapid manner. They laſt night erected a battery of five embrazures on the weſt ſide of the *Mill Tower St. Carlos*, by what we can diſcern, from the heights of the rock, appears to have received a complete repair. Our batteries endeavour as much as poſſible, to prevent the executing of their labours on the iſthmus.

Antonio Juanico, ordered for execution this day is reſpited. Arrived from the weſtward two ſmall veſſels from *Portugal*, laden with lemons and oranges, a very refreſhing ſupply.

A ſmall boat that appeared off *Cabritto-point*, was fired at ſeveral times from the battery at that place, but without effect, upon this a *Spaniſh* lugger got under ſail endeavouring to cut her off but to very little purpoſe, as the boat had nearly anchored before ſhe had got half bay over. She proves to be the *Portuguze* laden with fruit and oranges.

The enemy's cruizers have been particularly buſy all this day, running in and out alternately. We imagine they have received intimation of ſome veſſel bound for this place. They on the land ſide keep working and firing.

Arrived ſafe, the *Young Sabine*, with porter, wine, and potatoes. Our men of war's boats towed her round *Europa*. It is confidently aſſerted that ſhe has brought intelligence to the Governor of a very intereſting nature, but we cannot learn the particulars.—The *Spaniſh* cruizers were diſappointed in miſſing the capture

capture of this veſſel, as all their attempts to effect it were rendered ineffectual. 1782. Feb. 15.

Arrived the brig *Eliza*, with ſundry articles on board, for the uſe of the garriſon. The *Spaniſh* cruizers, who returned yeſterday evening to *Algeziras*, made a ſignal too late, to do themſelves any ſervice; but to convince the world how valiant and daring they were, they keep cruizing in the bay with all the pomp of line of battle ſhips, and came very near the guns at *Europe*, but thought prudent to keep at a diſtance, leſt an unfortunate ſhot ſhould diſpoſſes them of all their imaginary glory. 16th.

The *Spaniſh* works are briſkly forwarded, the iſthmus almoſt is become a ſcene of enchantment—the enemy certainly muſt employ a conſiderable number of men, or otherwiſe they could not make ſuch a rapid execution.

Wind N. W. This morning a ſail appeared ſtanding from the weſtward; the *Spaniſh* towers let fly a ſignal of an enemy's appearance—a frigate, xebec, and ſeveral gun boats, immediately got under way, while the battery at *Cabritta Point* fired ſeveral rounds. The xebec bore down, when the *Engliſh* veſſel opened upon her and made her haul her wind, and ſoon afterwards ſhe dropped a ſtern, the frigate and gun boats then ſtood a croſs to intercept her, which ſhe as ſpiritedly engaged, receiving two broad-ſides from the frigate, and ſeveral rounds of grape from the gun-boats. After having engaged a conſiderable time, 17th.

1782. Feb. 17. such a superior force, she had the good fortune to get in without much damage, and proves to be the *Flying-Fish* cutter, in eight days from *England*, laden with ordnance stores.—Some of the enemy's boats having been drove very near the garison, the batteries at *Europa* discharged a few shot at them, but plying their oars briskly they got off without any injury, as we could observe.

18th. Wind S. W. Last night a brig from the westward entered the bay, and observing the lights in the *Spanish* camp, steered for that place, imagining it was the town of *Gibraltar*. The Captain continued his course until he came opposite to *Prince Orange's* battery, when the officer on duty there, challenged the ship, who answered "From *Corke*." The captain discovered his error, and finding he was running under the enemy's batteries, put about, and run aground at the back of the *Old Mole*, where *Fort Philippe* and the *Black Battery* kept up a fire upon her. The *Hibernian* Captain, when he landed, in a jocular manner, endeavoured to apologize, for his misconduct, by saying, "By J--us, he intended to run his ship up to his merchant's storehouse, having heard, when at *Corke*, that we had burnt all the *Spanish* batteries and spiked up their guns, and that he imagined he might anchor in any part of the bay with safety." This was alluding to the sally made 27th of *November*, 1781, which was so much noised throughout *England* and *Ireland*, and by way of reminding us, that we had not done as much as was boasted in the papers. She has brought a supply of butter,

butter, pork, and potatoes, which is intended to be landed, if poſſible, this night. Her name is the *Governor Elliott*, *Samuel Seldon*, Maſter. 1782. Feb. 18.

This morning we obſerved a battery of 12 embraſures conſtructed on the iſthmus, and in other parts the ſand was thrown up as a cover. The enemy fired very warmly on the *Governor Elliott* brig, and have greatly damaged her—part of his cargo has been landed—a brisk fire continues on both ſides. 20th.

A *Portuguese* ſchooner from the weſt, was taken between *Tariffa* and *Cabritto point*, and brought into *Algeziras*, where there is not any doubt ſhe will be condemned. The wind having ſprung up eaſterly, a *Tartar* arrived from *Lisbon*, with a cargo of wine and uſeful neceſſaries. Several gun-boats alſo arrived from the eaſt, we imagine them to be the remainder that chaſed the two Cutters on the 16th of *January*.

Wind E. Sailed laſt night from hence, the *Viper*, *Lively*, and *Dartmouth Tartar* cutters. About an hour afterwards the *Spaniſh* towers were illuminated, and a number of rockets thrown up. The enemy keep hard and conſtantly at work on the iſthmus. 21ſt.

Wind W. This morning the ſhipping at *Algeziras* was dreſſed with full colours, and at noon a *feu de joye* was fired on both land and ſea, and repeated three times. 23d.

A ſhip appeared in the offing, ſtanding for this

1780. Feb. 23. place, when a frigate and xebec made ready. She continued her course and received their fire with great intrepidity, plying her guns in an heroic manner. After about an hours fire she got in, and proves to be the *Mercury* transport, from *Lisbon*, with wine, poultry and fruit.

24th. Wind W. Arrived at *Algaziras* from the westward, two xebecs, and two cutters, as a reinforcement to the *Spanish* squadron on that station. The *Spanish* working parties are busily employed.

25th. Wind W. Arrived the *St. Ann* of 28 guns, in 12 days from *London*, with ordnance stores. Not any particular intelligence received, except that she was chased some leagues to the westward, and escaped during the night.

28th. Wind E. Arrived the *Indian King*, from *Leghorn*, with timber and liquors, a brisk fire on both sides was kept up. The enemy continue laboriously working on the isthmus, forwarding with all possible expedition, their new approaches. The tedious Siege familiarizes more and more every day, and our eager and anxious expectations no longer impatiently excite to battle, as the foe discovers not any inclination to attack our walls only with 26 pounders, and 13 inch shells, from which, probably, they hope to effect a capitulation, but while they remain at that distance, all their efforts will prove but impotency, and until they can level by their fire, the heights of the hard and solid rock, they never will accomplish the capture of the

the garrison. You may perceive by the following lines, which I penned behind a traverse at Willis's yesterday, how contented we are in our situation.

While peaceful flocks in verdant meadows graze,
Supply their wants, and slumber at their ease;
Now skip and sport, and each contented feed,
And one by one are destined to bleed.
But here—'midst hardships, soldiers ne'er repine,
But with the pomp of war sit down to dine;
To feast upon an ounce of salted beef,
Which at the most affords but small relief;
No sparkling wine to animate and cheer,
No pint, nor pot, of British *home-brew'd beer,*
But pickled beef and water is our fare;
Coop'd up like pastur'd sheep, within the walls,
And one by one cut off by shells and balls.
Here two or three together meet for mirth,
*And seat themselves behind a *bank of earth;*
Here bread and water chearfully goes round,
And grass, got on the rock, for sallad found;
Sometimes brown toast, and vinegar supplies
The place of punch, and crowns our festive joyt.
Thus happy in our sports each other cheer,
In God we place our trust, nor danger fear,
With heart and hand, the walls and batt'ries man,
Live hard, fight, watch, do all that Britons *can!*

I remain yours, &c.

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*The meaning of the expression of "a bank of earth," is large casks placed upseep, and filled with earth and stones, which is called a traverse, and is a shelter from cannon balls.

LETTER

LETTER XXX.

GIBRALTAR.

DEAR BROTHER,

1782. Mar. 18. THE fortune of war, and the casuals of life are equally changeable, the victors of one day are often defeated another, and lose those laurels that were carried in triumph from the field of slaughter. The fate of *Minorca* was announced here this morning, by a flag of truce from the *Orange Grove*, who brought the intelligence of that fortress having surrendered to His Catholic Majesty's forces, and that the *feu de joye*, fired on the 23d of *February*, was in celebration of the conquest. It is not improbable but the enemy entertain lively notions of this place, and imagine that this piece of information may tend to depress our spirits, and facilitate their future operations against us.

We kept up a very hot fire all the forenoon, and set the enemy's works in a blaze, which they extinguished shortly afterwards.

21st. This morning our batteries directed their fire upon the enemy's advanced works on the isthmus, when a heavy and incessant cannonade was spiritedly maintained between the enemy and the garrison, till 9 o'clock, during which time, we had the fortune to set their works on fire again. The foe manifested a valour, and in an intrepid manner, jumped upon the ghacis,

pouring

pouring baskets of sand upon the flames, when after much difficulty and danger they got it put out. 1782: Mar. 3d.

Wind E. Last night the *Flying Fish* cutter, sailed to the westward with dispatches. The enemy keep advancing their approaches towards the garrison. The cannonade but slack these two days. 4th.

THE fortune. 1782. Mar. 1st.

Arrived *Patrus Prats* from *Algiers*, with sheep and wine, the former sells at a most enormous and exorbitant price. The enemy's parties on the isthmus work excessively hard, and bring forward their approaches with dispatch—they have almost reached into our late gardens. 5th.

GARRISON ORDERS.

"*The town guards to mount at half past 6, and the South guards at 7 o' clock, till further orders.*"

The enemy having been very remiss in cannonading the town, it is imagined was the occasion of the Governor altering the hour of relieving the guards. 6th.

The enemy keep working and moderately firing by which Lieutenant *Cuppage*, of the Royal Artillery was this day wounded: all quiet on the sea side. 9th.

The enemy indicate fresh preparation for the ensuing storm, several parties being employed this morning in clearing ground for a reinforcement of troops. A number of tents are already pitched. A rebel, which came near the garrison, had several rounds fired 10th.

at

15th. at her, which compelled her to sheer off. We discharged a number of carcasses upon the enemy's isthmus works, with an intent to burn them, but did not meet with the completion of our wishes.

16th. The enemy work most assiduously, and have raised a very high and well planned breast-work, supposed by our Engineers and Artillerists to be intended for a mortar battery.

This day arrived at *Algaziras*, a frigate from the westward, but not any salute was given.

The enemy's fire these three days, has been particularly spirited, by which we have had some few wounded, among whom is Lieutenant *White*, of the 56th regiment. Our batteries are now bravely playing upon the foe.

17th. Southerly wind. Two frigates having come within the reach of our prams, anchored off *New Mole*.—they began a well-directed and furious fire upon them. One of the frigates, it was observed, received several shots.

18th. Our fishing boats were drove out of the bay this morning by a xebec, who kept a gentle sail, until, by her repeated firings, she made them all retreat to the shore. The inhumanity of this act, is better to be conceived than expressed. Few instances are to be found that bear any similitude to such an unprecedented proceeding. The *Spaniards* are forwarding their works, and discharging their ordnance upon us.

The

The Governor has ordered the bridge at *Landport* to be pulled down, and the communication to that poſt will be through the * ſallyport in the ditch, where there is to be a temporary ſtage made, for the purpoſe of detachments paſſing and repaſſing from the covered way, and out-guards. Alſo one of the ſlopes by which the guards, and centinels now aſcends to their poſts, is alſo to be levelled. An encampment was began this morning on the weſt of the *Orange Grove*. We expect the Siege will quickly come to an iſſue from the preparations, making by the foe. 1782. March 19.

Laſt night about eleven o'clock, a mill, on *Windmill-hill*, conſtructed for the purpoſe of grinding the wheat ſent over from *England*, by ſome means took fire, and was conſumed. The enemy are very buſy with ſome ſhipping, which is imagined are intended for *fire floats*. 21st.

Wind W. Laſt night arrived the *Vernon* ſtore ſhip, with materials for gun-boats, what we have long wiſhed for. The *Succeſs* frigate eſcorted her to latitude 36. when ſhe left her and returned to *England*. The *Succeſs*, on her paſſage took the *St. Catalina*, a *Spaniſh* frigate, who afterwards was burnt on the appearance of the *Cerberus* and *Apollo* frigates, (ſuſpecting them to be enemy's) and four tranſports, that came in alſo during the night, having on board the 97th regiment, as a reinforcement to the garriſon.

Z Three

* A door in a Baſtion or Battery, for the purpoſe of making a ſally, unexpectedly on the beſiegers.

23d. March. Three very large ships and four xebecs, arrived at *Algeziras*, imagined to be laden with flores and provision.

25th. This day our flag of truce carried to *Orange Grove*, some officers and men, put on board the *Vernon*, belonging to the *Catalina* frigate. The enemy continue their usual working parties. From ten o'clock last night, till day-break this morning, a brisk fire was maintained with determined resolution, between forts *Barbary*, *Phillipe*, and the batteries on the heights of the hill.

30th. The enemy's ships and forts fired several rounds alternately. It is supposed the rejoicing is (on account of this being Passion-saturday) in celebration of our Saviour's resurrection. The *Spanish* working parties have not done any quantity of work to day.

31st. This morning the batteries at *Willis's* and *Montague's bastion*, opened with martial rage upon the isthmus works. Wind N. W. a very fresh breeze. Shot and shells were incessantly discharged, when one of the latter having penetrated into the faicines, immediately set that part in a flame, which continued burning until about thirty yards was consumed. The flames spread in a rapid manner and the enemy did all they could to prevent the progress of the fire, nor could they extinguish it by any means, but was under the necessity of cutting an opening, as the only remedy to secure their approaches from being again destroyed.

The

The troops in the camp of *Santa Roque*, came out of their tents to view the ſpirited action, while only the flaſh of guns, and exploding ſhells were to be ſeen; the iſthmus, and northermoſt part of the rock being hid with the clouds of ſmoke. 1782. March.

Yours, &c.

LETTER XXXI.

"Who like the Cur barks at the crowd that paſſes?"

GIBRALTAR, April 1.

DEAR BROTHER,

SUCH is the diſpoſition of our inveterate and malignant foes, every ſhip, ſettee, or bark that appears, immediately a gun is diſcharged, and a cruiſer ſent out to interrogate, "*From whence come ye, or Where are you bound?*" A *Swediſh* veſſel was brought into *Algeziras* yeſterday evening for not bringing too, upon a gun being fired from a double galley off the Point.

Arrived a veſſel from *Portugal* with ninety ſheep, during the courſe of the night.

1782. April. This morning a ſoldier deſerted from *Landport guard*, and received the fire of muſquetry of all the centinels, but without effect. The *Spaniſh* working parties are diligently employed.

2d. Laſt night a *Spaniſh* deſerter came in, and reports that the ſoldier that deſerted yeſterday, was wounded by our fire, and died in the greateſt agony, in the *Mill Battery*, (or *St. Carlos.*) This forenoon a great many tents was pitched eaſt ſide of the *Horſe Barracks*, and ſome ſquadrons of infantry marched in.

9th. The encampment weſt of the *Orange Grove* is taken poſſeſſion of by troops; but they do not appear very numerous, or perhaps they are tired with their march over the mountains, and keep their tents as a relaxation from their fatigue. The enemy cannonade the garriſon exceſſively warm, three men and a boy wounded at *Willis's*.

10th. The encampment pitched yeſterday is hourly increaſing in the number of tents, but not any conſiderable body of troops appear. The enemy fired very hot this morning, and a ſhell which fell in *Landport Ditch*, juſt as the new guard came to relieve the old one, killed Lieutenant *Witham*, of the 12th Regiment, wounded his ſervant who was on the right of the guard, and blew the Drummers drum in pieces. He was an amiable officer, and well reſpected, the loſs of him is much regretted by all ranks in the garriſon.

Six lug ſail boats arrived from the weſtward, from their

their form and conſtruction we apprehend they are in- 1782.
tended for landing of troops. Every thing now in- April
dicates a ſpeedy and vigorous aſſault. Our enemies are
ſeemingly prepared for immediate battle, their iſthmus
works being almoſt completed.

Wind W. Arrived a boat from *Portugal* with goats, 24
fowls, &c. The Patron brings intelligence that ſhips 25th.
and floating batteries are fitting up in the port of *Cadiz*,
lined with cork and oakum, whoſe ſtrength are to turn
a cannon ball, and that when *Duke de Crillon* arrives
with his conquering, valiant, and ſucceſsful troops
from the glorious expedition at *Minorca*, he is to take
the command of the forces, and head the army in their
attack upon this place. He ſays, that from the ac-
counts received in *Portugal*, the people of *Spain*, look
upon the Duke's conduct with admiration, and expect
that thoſe who join him will be invulnerable.

Arrived a large cutter at *Algaziras*, from the weſt. 25th
The enemy have brought forward their approaches
conſiderably towards the garriſon. A general diſcharge
of ordnance prevails.

Wind S. W. Two large xebecs arrived this fore- 26th.
noon on the oppoſite ſide, and ſeveral ſmall ſettees, all
from the weſtward.

The enemy's force now conſiſts of three frigates,
four large xebecs, one cutter, one bomb ketch, at *Al-
gaziras*; one large xebec, one cutter, one lugger, one
bomb ketch, at *Orange Grove*; one large xebec, one

ſmall

1782. April. small ditto, one sloop of war at *Cabritta*; fifteen gun boats, eight mortar boats, ten or twelve firesships in the rivers, beside what shipping they have at *Centa*, and cruizing to the eastward.

Landport bridge is taken down, and it is reported that both the slopes are to be levelled, and only a timber ascent made, that in case of any emergence may be set on fire, to prevent the enemy's entrance into the ditch under *Grand Battery*.

Our working parties are employed in erecting splinter proofs upon the batteries on the hill, as a cover from the bomb shells when they explode in the air, which the *Spaniards* have practised of late.

20th. Wind N. W. This morning upon a ship being discovered by the enemy in the offing, they hoisted a signal on the tower at *Cabritta*, which not being answered, a xebec, and sloop that lay at the Point, slipped out, and bore down under a pressure of sail.——The xebec having got a-head, fired a broadside at her, which was directly returned by the ship; the sloop now came up, and fired a few guns, notwithstanding which, she continued her course, and got safe in, without any loss. She proves to be the *Antigallican* store-ship, in eight days from *Falmouth*. The enemy, apparently, are not so attentively employed on the isthmus as formerly.

21st. The regiments in the town and southward, exchanged quarters this forenoon.

Very

Very little work done by the enemy——The gun-boats brought over by the *Vernon*, are getting in great forwardneſs in the *New Mole yard*. 1782. April.

Several parties employed daily in bringing faſcines into the *Spaniſh* camp. We ſuppoſe that the want of theſe materials has been the occaſion of their ceaſing from work theſe three days. Forts *Barbary* and *Philippe*, the *Black Battery* and lines, fired this afternoon, minute guns, with ſhot upon the Garriſon. 22d.

This forenoon an experimental trial was made with one of our gun boats, mounted with an eighteen pounder. The firſt and ſecond ſhot fired horizontally recouched three or four times; the third had a degree of elevation, and went a diſtance in the bay. The Naval Commander promiſes great ſucceſs from them, when the twelve is finiſhed. All hands buſy at work upon them. 24th.

This morning early a deſerter from the Volunteers of *Argon* came in, and confirms a former account of ſhips being preparing for the purpoſe of attacking this garriſon, lined with cork and junk, to prevent the penetration of our ſhot. A few working parties again appear on the iſthmus, but their labours is executed under cover. 25th.

This day one of our long boats going from *Ragged Staff* to the *New Mole* with iron, ſprung a leak and went to the bottom, unfortunately a man and a boy were drowned. 27th.

Wind

1782. April. 28th. Wind W. S. W. This morning two ships brig rigged, appeared in the gut, with their heads standing to the East.—The *Spaniſh* towers made a ſignal of an enemy being at hand, upon which two xebecs, and eight gun boats went out, in order to ſecure them, but were unexpectedly diſappointed, they proving to belong to the *French*. The rapidity of the current, and the wind having ſhifted to the N. W. the xebecs and gun boats drove to the eaſtward.

30th. The enemy's works appear to be executed according to their wiſhes, for notwithſtanding we only now and then diſcharge a few rounds of ſhot and ſhells, they have not taken the opportunity of doing any work. In the *Spaniſh* camp, a numerous army are ſeen—the whole common at the foot of *Santa Roque*, is become a town and place of habitation, where a grand diſplay of ſlaughtering inſtruments are exhibited, and the moſt renowned engineers, experienced artilleriſts, and approved ſoldiers and ſeamen, are bent upon our extirpation from this heart-galling rock. That their views and intentions may be fruſtrated, is the ſincere and hearty wiſh of

Your affectionate Brother.

LETTER

LETTER XXXII.

1781. May 3. GIBRALTAR.

Dear BROTHER,

EVERY opportunity that offers of writing to you, I readily embrace, and find an infinite satisfaction in the employ. The reciprocal affection that has so long subsisted between us, pleasingly excites the labours of my pen, and conscious that your bosom feels for my absence and situation, I should consider myself unpardonable in any omission.

The enemy continue the Siege, and are getting in forwardness the most studious preparations for an attack. It is beyond dispute that the contention will shortly be finally adjusted.

Last night Wind E. Sailed the *Cerberus* and *Apollo* 8th frigates, *St. Ann*, *Vernon*, *Mercury*, and *Antigallican* floorships, the *Betsey*, *Thompson*, *Loyal Britain*, and *Valiant* transports, at which time two *Spanish* frigates and three xebecs were cruizing in the gut. They had not been long under sail, when rockets were thrown up at *Algeziras*, and answered at *Cabrita point*. About an hour after a cannonading was heard in the gut, and continued for some time tolerably brisk; and this morning we had the mortification to view the enemy, returning

1782. May 8. turning with the three laſt named tranſports, being the only defenceleſs veſſels that ſailed from hence. Their ſails were very much torn, and it is ſuppoſed the enemy alone directed their fire upon them, not liking to attack the ſtoreſhips, they having a formidable appearance in the night. Thus victorious they entered the bay in triumph, and conducted their prizes (manned only with about twenty-one men) to the port of *Algeziras*, there to recount the dangers of the battle, and to regale themſelves with the ſpoil.

9th. Wind W. S. W. This forenoon arrived from the weſtward, one line of battle ſhip, convoying eight large ſtore-ſhips or Indiamen. From the appearance of their rigging and ſides, which is dry and ſhabby, and having but a few hands on board, we cannot imagine from what part they have arrived, or what occaſion brought them in here. All hands buſy about the *Spaniſh* camp.

10th. Wind S. E. Arrived a *Portugueſe* ſettee, from *Tetuan*, with about 30,000 oranges, and a few pipes of oil. She was cleared out for *Ceuta*, but ſmuggled herſelf in here, where they will find a good market for their cargo. Oranges are ſold for a rial each, about four-pence three farthings ſterling.

13th. The eight large ſhips that arrived over the way the 9th inſtant, are hauled cloſe to the ſhore and are unrigging, and thoſe that arrived on the 24th March have proceeded to the *Orange Grove*. It is currently reported that they are lined with cork, and are to be converted

converted into batteries, but moſt people think that they are more fit for fire-wood, than attacking a fortreſs. 1782. May 13.

The ſtore-ſhips at *Algeziras* are quite unrigged, and a great many hands employed upon them clearing their decks. The land fire is maintained with ſpirit, but very little work ſeemingly going forward on the iſthmus. 15th.

Laſt night three ſoldiers in attempting to deſert from the heights of the rock, fell from a precipice, and were found dead under the *Sugar-loaf*, lying near each other. They had procured a rope and faſtened it to a cleft of the rock, but it was not of a ſufficient length to reach the bottom. 20th.

Arrived a xebec and a galley, from the weſtward, at *Algeziras*. The enemy are employed upon two of the ſtore-ſhips cutting their ſides down. 22d.

The enemy continue working on the two ſtore-ſhips at *Algeziras*, and appear to be thickening with pieces of timber and other materials, their ſtarboard ſides—ſeveral ports have been already cut: From this it is evident they are intended for floating batteries. Wind E. The other ſtore ſhips that lay at the *Orange Grove*, ſailed from thence to the weſtward, having diſcharged their lading, which is ſuppoſed to be ordnance ſtores. 23d.

Arrived the *St. George* xebec, with a ſmall ſupply from *Leghorn*, having on board twelve *Corſicans*, including one officer, who have voluntarily come to offer

for their ſervice, in the defence of this place. They mention that ſeveral more are preparing to embark on the ſame expedition.

26th. Arrived the *Jobn, Tartan*, from *Leghorn*, with a ſupply of wine and oil. She brings intelligence that we may be aſſured of a vigorous attack, as ſoon as the *Spaniſh* ſhips are ready, which will be made ſo ſtrong and of ſuch a nature, that they will neither burn nor batter.

The *Spaniſh* hoſpital laſt night took fire, and is entirely conſumed.

27th. Wind S. E. Yeſterday evening near one hundred ſail of tranſports, and a bomb-ketch, arrived and anchored between *Algeziras* and *Orange Grove*, and this morning we perceived they were very full of men, which are ſuppoſed to be troops.

28th. A conſiderable body of troops were landed from the tranſports this forenoon, and marched into the *Spaniſh* camp. The enemy have hauled two tranſports in, and have begun unrigging them. The two large ſhips that the enemy have been working at, have each of them fourteen or fifteen port holes cut in their larboard ſides.

A flag of truce was received from *Spain*, but her meſſage is meer conjecture with the public. Some ſay, ſhe has brought a demand from the *Spaniſh* General, for the ſurrendering of the Fortreſs; but this,

I am

I am confident, never will be done, while we have an ounce of bread, and a round of ammunition.

An *English Tartan* was taken to the eastward and towed by the enemy into *Algeziras*, with her colours reversed. It is asserted that the vessel is the one that Patron *Pratt's* sailed from this port some time past to *Algiers* for supplies. 30th.

Our twelve gun boats in *New Mole yard* are nearly finished: several are already in the water, and lye very snug.—We are very anxious to make trial of them with the enemy. A boat went out this day with a flag of truce into the bay, with the Governor's answer to theirs, received the 28th instant.

The ships at *Algeziras* are getting pretty forward; a number of hands are employed upon them, but most of the garrison are of opinion from their construction, that they will be found of very little use when they attack our walls, as they never will be able to tow them near enough to do any material execution, for should they daringly come on, their boats will be inevitably cut off by grape shot from the garrison.

We shall have pretty sport soon.—I hope to survive to send you an account of the particulars, wherein a victorious repulse, I trust, will be found; and probably before you receive this letter, the battle will have taken place and the contest be decided.

With a heart glowing with zeal for the honor of my King

1782 May. King, the welfare of Britain and her Dependences, permit me to conclude, with the moſt brotherly love and eſteem,

Yours, &c.

LETTER XXXIII.

GIBRALTAR.

DEAR BROTHER,

June 2. THE enemy labour conſtantly at equiping the ſtore-ſhips for ſervice—from the lights obſerved at *Algeziras* laſt night, we imagine they were buſy at work—the maſts of moſt of them are taken out.

This morning died here, Brigadier General *Stanton*, of the 97th regiment.

3d. Wind E. This day a convoy of near fifty ſail of different ſizes, arrived from the eaſtward at *Algeziras*, with ſtores and proviſion for the uſe of their army and navy. The cannonade continues pretty briſk on both ſides, but we have had only a few wounded.

GARRISON ORDERS.

The Royal Standard to be hoiſted to-morrow—The Governor

Governor desires to meet all the Officers not on duty, on their respective parades, at guard mounting to-morrow, to congratulate with them on the anniversary of His Majesty's birth-day. 1782. June 3d.

"*Each ordnance to be fired at the enemy's works, as shall be ordered by the Commanding Officer of the Royal Artillery, beginning at one o'clock.*

The Royal standard was hoisted this morning on the flag-staff in town, and on board the *Brilliant* in *New Mole*—at one o'clock the Northernmost batteries fired forty-four rounds of shot and shells upon the enemy's forts and works, in honor of his Majesty's birth-day. The shipping in the *New Mole*, and our twelve gun-boats arranged in a line from the *Tanks* to the pier of the *New Mole Head*, also performed a similar, and gave three cheers. The enemy maintained a brisk fire the whole day. The floating batteries (or gork ships) at *Algaziras*, are forwarding with all possible diligence. 4th.

A hot fire from the land batteries, upon our works and parties, which is as spiritedly returned from our heights. 6th.

Captain *Wideburg*, of *Reden's* regiment of *Hanoverians*, was wounded this day.

The *Spaniards* have a great many hands employed upon seven ships at *Algaziras*; most of them have ports cut in their sides, but none of them appear to be finished.

This forenoon our Artillery had some *red hot shot* experimental 7th.

25th. June. perimental practice, at a veſſel wrecked off *Prince Orange's* battery, which ſucceeded pretty well. An unfortunate accident happened by a gun unexpectingly going off, which killed the gunner in the embraſure, and wounded three other men. A conſtant fire from the Rock Gun, upon the enemy's works on the iſthmus.

GARRISON ORDERS.

"One quarter and half of a pint of vinegar to be iſſued to every ration, till further orders.

The ſurgeons of the different corps are of opinion, that this will be a great preventative in the ſad effects of the ſcurvy.

26th. The men employed upon the ſeven floating batteries, work with the greateſt aſſiduity, but as yet we cannot form any judgment of their utility or conſtruction.

Early this morning the *Spaniſh* gun and mortar boats made an excurſion in the bay, and diſcharged their ordnance upon the garriſon—They fired very warm for an hour and three quarters, during which time we had ſeveral men wounded. A ſoldier is miſſing, ſuppoſed to have deſerted.

27th. This forenoon a thirteen inch ſhell fired from the enemy's works, fell upon a Magazine on *Princeſs Ann's* battery, where there was many men at work and on duty; it forced its way through the ſplinter-proof which covered the magazine door, burſt it open, and

in

in the explosion blew up the magazine. Our loss on this occasion is as follows, viz. fifteen men killed, and twenty-one wounded, some of them in a dangerous way. Scarce had the explosion taken place, when the enemy began a cannonade and bombardment, from every battery they had any ordnance mounted in, particularly directed to the place where the accident had happened: The garrison kept pouring upon them heavy discharges of shot and shells, which they sustained with the firmest resolution. 1782. June.

The man missing the 10th instant, was taken this day by a party of men at the back of the rock, and sent on board the *Provost ship*; a place of safe confinement, as we have not a garrison goal.

The enemy labour excessive hard at their cork ships; their whole intention seems to be engaged in their equipment. It is supposed that in five or six weeks they will be completed and ready for action, but the enemy will never be able to get them off, whenever they cast anchor against the walls, so that if they are not successful in taking the place, they will be compelled to abandon them to our cannonade. 13th.

This day a soldier deserted from a guard at *Landport*, the centinels fired at him, but he made his escape.

Wind E. A *French* frigate convoying a number of small craft, arrived on the enemy's side from the eastward. About two this afternoon a *Spanish* xebec was becalmed near the garrison. The Southward batteries 14th.

1784. June. and Prams at *New Mole Head* fired upon her, and Captain *Curtis* of the *Brilliant*, with 12 gun boats rowed out towards her. She perceiving her situation, fired a gun, as a signal for assistance, while our 12 gun boats kept constantly raking her. The enemy sent over several small cruizers to her relief, when unluckily a breeze sprung up, and they towed her out of the reach of our guns. Had it continued a calm much longer, she must have been under the necessity of striking.

13th The xebec that we engaged yesterday, is observed to be upon her keel, repairing the damages she received from our fire.

17th Wind E. A settee from the eastward was carried into *Algaziras* under *English* colours by a *Spanish* cruizer; in all probability she was laden with cattle for the garrison, which is much wanted and sells at a great price; beef four shillings and tenpence halfpenny per pound, and mutton five shillings, and five shillings and twopence per pound; you may judge the scarcity when a bullock before he is killed, almost every pound of him is purchased, and the liver sold for one shilling and threepence per pound at the slaughter-house door, where a crowd of women and children mostly are fighting for the same; it being termed by us a dainty dish when fried. A bullock's head, without a tongue, has been sold for seven dollars and a half, which is according to the exchange of money one pound three shillings and fourpence halfpenny, and the tongue for eight shillings and three-half-pence.

GARRISON ORDERS.

"*When the advanced gun boats discover the approach*

of

of the enemy's gun boats, they will fire a gun, and have several false fires. If they should observe the approach of boats, which they suppose to contain troops, they will fire a gun, and throw up several rockets, when the men of war will beat to arms, and if the drummers of the guards and garrison have not beat to arms before, they will immediately take it up from the frigates." 1782. June.

Yesterday evening Wind W. a ship of the line, three large store ships, and eight other vessels arrived at *Algeziras* from the westward. It is the general opinion of the garrison that the three large ships are for the purpose of making floating batteries, to co-operate with those now preparing over the way, as they are hauled in under the land. 18th.

This afternoon Wind S. E. three frigates and between seventy and eighty transports under *French* colours, with troops on board arrived and anchored on the enemy's side. We conjecture they have brought a reinforcement of near six thousand men. Our prams fired several shot at four of the enemy's gun boats that came within reach of the guns—a shot went through the sail of the head-most when they made off.

The troops arrived in the *French* transports have began disembarking, several boats already landed at the pier of the *Orange Grove*. A vessel with a *Spanish* ensign above the *English* was carried into *Algeziras*. The enemy are busy in unrigging the three last store ships, and cutting down their sides. The fire from the land side continues. 20th.

1782, June 21. A boat came over laſt night from *Algeziras* with two men, taken in the ſettee on the 17th, they cut the boat adrift and made their eſcape. They report that the *Spaniards* are in high ſpirits, and great expectation, from ten cork ſhips which are getting ready with all poſſible expedition whoſe ſtrength and form will be impregnable both againſt ſhot and ſhells. We ſhall of courſe find ſtubborn work with them.

The *French* troops finiſhed landing this day, and are encamped on the left of the *Spaniſh* army, they take up a conſiderable tract of ground. From accounts received, the enemy's land forces are now thirty thouſand ſtrong.

22d. The *Spaniards* are very buſy on their ten cork ſhips, and have cut down the ſides of the three latter arrived. The land batteries have not diſcharged many ſhot this day, from which we imagine they are contemplating other works.

24th. The enemy have been ſilent theſe three days paſt, every thing on the iſthmus wears a different appearance. It is imagined that a new arrangement of affairs has taken place, and that *Duke de Crillon*, ſucceeds General *Alvarez* in command. The enemy are ſtill employed on the floating batteries.

27th. All quiet on the iſthmus excepting now and then a ſhot for diverſion, which ſometimes we return and ſometimes not. Our Governor has taken this opportunity

cunity of repairing and ſtrengthening the works and batteries. Several ſtrong working parties employed to the northward. 28th. June.

Little fire from the enemy. The floating batteries are forwarded with incredible expedition. The enemy have began forming ſomething over the deck of one of them, intended we ſuppoſe for a ſplinter proof, time will manifeſt the uſe of it. 29th.

I remain,
Dear brother,
Affectionately yours.

LETTER XXXIV.

GIBRALTAR. July 2.

DEAR BROTHER,

THE enemy on the land ſide, obſerve a great tranquility, but for what reaſon we cannot determine, unleſs they are reſerving their ammunition for the day of attack. On our part we are well ſatisfied, as it affords us the opportunity of repairing the works that were ſhattered and damaged. This morning we fired five or ſix ſhells upon the enemy's works, which they anſwered with one ſhot.

The

July 2d. The conſtruction of the cover of one of the floating batteries, is much reſembling the roof of a houſe; but at the diſtance they now are, I cannot pretend to give an exact deſcription. The general opinion of the garriſon is, that the enemy will find a great difficulty to bring them on, as they muſt be very heavy from the quantity of timber. The regiments in the garriſon have been practiſing for ſeveral days the firing of ball from the line wall at a target in the ſea.

3d. One wing of the *Spaniſh* army ſtruck their tents this morning, and removed to another part of the common, for convenience. Some few ſhot and ſhells from the enemy.

6th. The floating batteries are not yet compleat; they have begun to roof a ſecond, ſo that we imagine they will be all finiſhed in the ſame manner. The enemy keep up a moderate cannonade.

GARRISON ORDERS.

"*The men will receive ſix ounces of raiſins or currants, in lieu of a quarter of a pint of oil, till further orders.*"

7th. Wind W. Early this morning a brig from the weſtward was diſcovered in the offing—The *Spaniſh* towers hung out the ſignal of an enemy, when a xebec and four gun boats puſhed out—the boats ſoon came up with her, and began a fire, which ſhe returned and kept them off—the xebec then bore down and boarded her manfully, and ſhortly after we obſerved a *Spaniſh* enſign hoiſted above the *Engliſh*. She was conducted

in

in triumph to *Algaziras*. We feel a ſenſible uneaſineſs in not having a force ſufficient to protect any veſſel ſtanding for the bay. It muſt be very diſtreſſing after a veſſel has eſcaped croſſing the ſea, to be taken in ſight of their deſtined port, and ſometimes almoſt within the reach of the garriſon guns. 13th July.

This afternoon arrived from the weſtward, and anchored at *Cabritta*, a frigate and a zebec. We expect ſome other veſſel is in ſight of the coaſt.

The enemy continue working on the cork ſhips, roofing them over, which makes them have a very odd appearance. A ſerjeant is miſſing, ſuppoſed to have deſerted. 10th.

This afternoon four men belonging to one of the Prams, went in a boat to the enemy. We fired at them, but too late to prevent their eſcape. The ſerjeant miſſing on the 10th, was found at the back of the rock, half way down, but for want of a rope could not get any further. 11th.

This morning a ſoldier deſerted from *Queen's Lines Guard*. A Prophet is taken up, and ſent on board the *Provoſt ſhip*. Like *Jonah* warning the city of *Nineveh*, ſo he publickly avowed that within ſix weeks, ſix days, and ſix hours from laſt Saturday at twelve o'clock, the garriſon would be taken, and the Governor killed. He is a ſoldier belonging to the 73d regiment, and at the expiration of the time there is not any doubt but he will ſuffer for his folly. 13th.

This

1782. July 14. This morning came in a deſerter from *Spain*: He ſays that there are forty-four battalions in camp; that *Duke de Crillon* has made a thorough ſurvey of all the works, and gone to *Madrid* to report to his Catholick Majeſty. The enemy have not completed any of the floating batteries—they have began this morning forming a boom acroſs the harbour at *Algaziras*, for the protection of their ſhipping—We flatter ourſelves that they are apprehenſive of the arrival of our fleet.

16th. WindW. The *French* convoy ſailed to the eaſtward, and the men of war are in readineſs to weigh. The boom at *Algaziras* is lengthening conſiderably. From theſe circumſtances we conjecture that we ſhall ſhortly find relief. The floating batteries come on apace.

17th. The boom is lengthened about two thouſand yards and covers all the floating batteries. The *Spaniſh* cruizers are very alert, and neither truſt to colours or ſignals. The enemy have begun a battery near *Tariſa*, (from the account the deſerter gives that came in on the 14th) and that ſix hundred men are detached for that purpoſe.

18th. Wind E. Six large boats arrived from the eaſtward at *Algaziras*—they appear to be new, and of the conſtruction of their gun boats. The enemy keep working day and night at the floating batteries; the roof of one is quite finiſhed, as is much like the top of a houſe, having a gradual aſcent from head and ſtern. Three mortar boats came out of the river, and have gone to the *Orange Grove*. On the land ſide, nothing

new

new appears, and what work is done by the enemy is within the batteries. A brisk fire from their forts. 27th. July.

The boom at *Algeziras* is extended the length of the town, and all the cruizers are on the inside; the bomb ketch which lay at the *Orange Grove*, weighed anchor, and has taken her station at the same place. The old pastime of shot and shells cannot be forgot, we keep playing away manfully. A sailor who happened to be in town when a shell burst over his head, exclaimed (with the usual oath, for which they are so much distinguished,) "*D—n me but the Spaniards have got a battery in the air.*" 29th.

All hands busy at work on the opposite shore—three of the floating batteries are roofed over. The regiments exchanged quarters this day. 22d.

Wind W. A large xebec arrived and anchored at *Algeziras*. The enemy have nearly roofed another of the floating batteries, and the three last that were taken in hand, are in great forwardness. 23d.

The sergeant taken at the back of the ro[illegible] the 11th, was executed for the same, and died with penitence becoming his unhappy situation. 24th.

Wind strong E. Arrived the *St. Philip's Castle*, and *General Murray* sloop of war, from *Leghorn*—they have brought provision for the garrison, with five officers and seventy-five *Corsicans*. They bring the agreeable intelligence of Admiral *Rodney* having defeat- 25th.

1782. July. ed the *French*, and taken the *Ville de Paris* of 110 guns, with four other line of battle ships. Our Governor ordered a salvo from the batteries, and a *feu de joye* to be fired, which you will perceive by the

GARRISON ORDERS.

"Parole RODNEY. *A feu de joye to be fired this day to celebrate the victory gained by His Majesty's fleet under the command of Sir George Rodney, over the French fleet in the West Indies. All the ordnance from the rock guns to Princess Carolina's inclusive to be fired at one o'clock, beginning at the rock gun shotted. At six in the evening the regiments will take post on the line wall, in the following order, drawn up two deep.*

"*The 72d regiment right to the Prince Hesse's battery; 12th join the left of 72d; the two town companies of Artillery on the King's bastion; the 39th on the left of the 12th; Lieutenant-General Reden's left of 39th; Major-General La Mott's left of Reden's; 73d right at Ragged-staff; 56th on the left of 73d; the three South-companies of Royal Artillery, in the New Mole fort—— Two rockets will be thrown up on the right, as a signal to begin the first round——two from the left, when the fire returns from thence for the second round; and two more from the right for the third round. Three cheers when the firing is finished, to begin on the right, and pass along in the same manner as the firing did.*"

The shipping and gun-boats fired and cheered at one o'clock, and the greatest spirit and satisfactory joy crowned the whole.

I hope this ſucceſs will contribute to diſtreſs and diſpirit our foes, who vaunting of their power, bluſter and threaten, and claim victory as their own. Their impregnable floating batteries will ſhortly be tried, and though the *Spaniſh* gazettes boaſt of unborn atchievements, yet there is not the leaſt doubt but our red hot pills will effectually anſwer our purpoſe. They muſt be of an amazing conſtruction if blazing twenty-four and thirty-two pounders will not burn them. Of this the day of trial will decide. 1782. July.

This being St. *James*'s Day, the enemy's ſhips were dreſſed and ſaluted three times——The enemy roofed over another floating battery.

Wind weſt. Arrived a ſmall ſettee from *Portugal* with wine and fruit. She has brought a confirmation of the glorious defeat of the *French*. The enemy endeavoured to take her, but were too late in getting out. 26th.

The floating batteries come rapidly on, another of them is roofed over. The enemy devote their whole time and ſtudy to get them finiſhed, and work day and night. On our part as we are convinced they are intended to attack the place, we as anxiouſly wiſh for their ſpeedy equipment; to give the deciſive ſtroke, and to determine whether *Britannia* or *Gaul* and *Iberia* ſhall be victorious. It will be hot and ſtubborn work if they are of the ſtrength that is reported, namely, *bomb-proof* that will reſiſt a ſhell which weighs two 30th.

hundred before it is discharged from the mortar, and when it descends, is supposed to fall thirty tons weight.

I am, Dear Brother,

Yours, &c.

LETTER XXXV.

Their blooming hopes soar high in this delusion,
To gain possession of this envied place,
And o'er the battlements Spain's ensigns spread.

GIBRALTAR.

DEAR BROTHER,

1782. Aug. 4. THE fire, ere long, will make their promised storm—their batteries are completed, and their junk-ships almost ready. A numerous army encamped, and boats for landing their troops are in the rivers. It is probable that this month will be the grand decision of the combat, and we heartily wish it, as we are almost worn out with constant toils, harrassing expectations, and a severe cannonade.

The enemy have brought several fire ships out of the rivers; the floating batteries have a very ugly and odd

odd appearance: We think they were mounting ordnance in one to-day, as a great number of boats were along ſide. 1782. August.

The *Corſicans* that arrived here from *Leghorn*, are ormed into a company, viz.

Signor *Anthnio Leonettie*, Captain; *Phillippo Maſſaraia*, Captain Lieutenant; *Georgio Alexandria Michili*, Firſt Lieutenant; *Leonardo Monti*, Adjutant, with the rank of Lieutenant; *Angelo Raffaelli*, ſecond Lieutenant; *Lugi Cotie*, Chaplain; four Sergeants, four Corporals, two Drummers, and 68 private men. Total eighty-four.

A deſerter from the enemy came in, and ſays, that the floating batteries are almoſt ready, and that one has been tried with ball, and anſwers their expectation. 7th.

Wind weſt. Arrived two veſſels under Imperial colours, from the weſtward at *Algaziras*, and the line of battle ſhip ſailed from that place to the *Orange Grove*, ſuppoſed to take in powder and ſtores. The floating batteries are very near finiſhed. The enemy fire with ſpirit from the land ſide. 8th

Wind E. This day arrived a *French* twenty gun ſhip, on the oppoſite ſide. Several parties are employed on the ſtrand, beyond the *Spaniſh* lines, we ſuppoſe for the purpoſe of erecting a battery, they being apprehenſive of a viſit in that part, whenever our fleet arrives.

The

1782. Aug. 11. The ſhip that came in yeſterday, has removed to the *Orange Grove*, probably to diſcharge her cargo. The enemy keep labouring at their junk ſhips, and have taken the maſts out of one of them, but moſt people are of opinion they never will be able to bring them over without ſails.

12th. The enemy have put ſmaller maſts into the ſhip, that they diſmaſted yeſterday, and are very buſy rigging her—From this it is evident they mean to ſail to their anchorage. From what opinion we can at preſent form, we imagine from their cloſeneſs and wanting air, that they will find an inconvenience in working their guns with briſkneſs.

13th. Wind W. Sailed the *Eliza* brig, for *Leghorn*. The veſſels arrived under Imperial colours, ſailed to the *Orange Grove*. The enemy are very buſy in rigging two of the floating batteries.

14th. Arrived a frigate, under *French* colours from the weſtward at *Algaziras*——Four gun boats fired at her, apprehending ſhe was an enemy, until ſhe diſplayed her colours.

The enemy have taken out the maſts of four of the batteries, and replaced them with others much ſmaller, the two that were rigging have bent their ſails——We imagine they will ſhortly all of them be ready.

During the courſe of laſt night, the enemy erected a work compoſed of ſand bags, extending obliquely from

from the eaſtern ſhore, towards the centre of the *Spaniſh* lines. It is computed from its length and height, and having ſo ſhort a ſpace of time to complete it in, only about ſix hours darkneſs, that there was not leſs than ten thouſand men employed in the execution of it.——At preſent it is maſked, but there is not the leaſt doubt but the enemy intend it for a battery.

The enemy have hauled out one of their floating batteries being perfectly finiſhed; ſhe has a very aukward and ſurpriſing appearance, and lies very low in the water.—They are very attentive in equipping the others. Wind W. arrived a cutter from the weſtward, and ſaluted the Admiral with eleven guns, which he returned with three. A tolerable briſk cannonade from the enemy's forts and lines. 17th.

About eleven o'clock this forenoon the enemy made a grand diſplay in the bay——ſeven barges with crimſon awnings proceeded from *Algaziras* attended by twelve gun boats to the *Orange Grove*——In half an hour after their arrival, they put off in the ſame order, upon which the ſhipping immediately dreſſed and the Admiral gave a ſalute of twenty-one guns—the other ſhipping alſo fired, and the gun boats each of them diſcharged their ordnance. A frigate got under weigh from *Algaziras*, and under a gentle ſail went to meet the barges, which when ſhe had come half way ſhe gave a ſalute of twenty-one guns, the gun boats fired alternately, until the barges got to *Algaziras*, when another royal ſalute was given. The barges then went 18th.

on

1782. Aug. 18 on board the junk ship hauled out yesterday, and a discharge of cannon continued while the visitors remained on board.——Having gratified their curiosity in the examination of the floating battery, they went on board the Admiral's ship to dine, and regale themselves, and drink a hearty bumper in success to their undertaking, where they continued till six o'clock in evening, when, in the same procession they came in, they returned to the pier at the *Orange Grove*, and on their landing another salute was given.—Some are of opinion that this rejoicing is occasioned by the arrival of a Prince of the Blood, and others that it is the Admiral who is to command the floating batteries.

19th. This forenoon a flag of truce from the *Orange Grove* came over, and rowed along pretty near our line wall, until she came opposite *Ragged-staff*, when one of our boats went out with Captain *Vallotin*, of the 56th regiment (chief Aid-de-camp to the Governor) and spoke to her, and soon afterwards returned.—The boat kept very close in with the shore, making a survey of the works, when the *Repulse*, (an advanced gun-boat) fired a shot as a caution for her to keep her proper distance.——Soon after Captain *Vallotin* returned to the flag of truce, which brought a handsome present of fruit and game for the Governor, from Count de *Artois*, whose arrival in the *Spanish* camp occasioned yesterday's rejoicing.—The floating batteries are rigging with the utmost expedition. The day of trial is very near at hand, I hope we shall acquit ourselves in the defence of this place with honour and success.

This

This morning our Governor sent out a flag of truce 1782.
to the enemy, with a return for the present received August.
yesterday. I am confidently told, it consisted of a cask of beef, pork, and butter; a cheese, a puncheon of rum, a sheep and a goat, some poultry, and a quantity of potatoes; "with the General's compliments to the Count, thanking him for his kindness, and assuring him that he did not want any refreshments." This was policy, and to make the enemy believe that our situation was not so deplorable as they imagined, though I assure you that the boat load we sent out, would have been thought an estate by many opulent families in this place.

Wind E. This morning we observed the *Elliot* brig 21st.
that sailed from hence on the 13th, returning from the eastward under a *Spanish* ensign, and also thirteen large boats which we imagine are for the purpose of landing troops, from their size it is not improbable but each of them may contain five hundred men.—Six of the floating batteries are almost rigged—two completely equipped for battle.

This afternoon our batteries poured upon the enemy's 22d.
works a considerable discharge of shot, shells, and carcasses, and had the satisfaction to set the enemy's advanced isthmus work on fire, which burnt most furiously for an hour or better. A brisk fire was maintained on both sides with the firmest spirit and bravery, and the enemy were several times drove off their works, and forced to abandon a battery on the left of *St. Carlos*,

1782. Aug. termed the *Maban* battery. We fired from the garrison in the ſpace of an hour near fourteen hundred rounds—the cannonade continued furious till nine o'clock, when the enemy rather ſlackened their fire. We had only three men wounded, but judge what loſs the foe muſt have ſuſtained, as they had a body of near two thouſand men employed, in endeavouring to extinguiſh the fire.

23d. The enemy have roofed another floating battery, and are rigging thoſe that are already roofed; one of them appears to have about twenty-ſix ports on one ſide. Our batteries keep playing away upon the iſthmus and we have been uſing every means to fire the enemy's works again, but all ineffectually.

24th. The ſand-bag work erected on the 16th inſtant, conſiſts of four batteries of ſixteen guns each. The enemy are buſy in nailing down their platforms, and getting all things in readineſs to mount the ordnance—They will be able to ſcour our lines, and advanced poſts from this work, and alſo in the rear, of which they are forming bomb batteries, ſo reſolutely determined are they upon the capture of the old rock.

25th. The enemy had a rejoicing to-day on the ſea ſide—in the morning at ſun-riſe, the ſhips dreſſed and fired, as did alſo the iſland near *Algaziras*—this was repeated again at noon, and at the going down of the ſun. The floating batteries are almoſt ready.

The

The *St. Philip's Castle*, and the ordnance store shipping that lay in *Rosia Bay*, hauled in this morning to the *New Mole*. The bay on our side is quite clear, as all our ships are now within the boom. From the situation of the place, it is whispered that the seamen are to be landed, and incorporated into a brigade, to act as soldiers within the walls, under the command of Captain *Curtis*, as Colonel. The enemy have eight of their floating batteries roofed—the day of battle is nigh at hand. 1782. August 26th.

This morning a deserter came in from *Spain*, and brings advice, that the enemy have every preparation made on the land-side for the assault, and that they are only waiting for the junk ships, when they mean to attack us in every quarter—He also says that eight line of battle ships are expected from *Cadiz*, to act in conjunction with the *flotantees*. He was taken prisoner at *Minorca*, by *Duke de Crillon*, and insisted into a *French* regiment, but not liking to fight against his King and country, embraced the first opportunity of making his escape. 27th.

Wind W. Arrived at *Algaziras*, six line of battle ships, two xebecs and a cutter. The ninth floating battery is almost roofed, but is much smaller than the others. 28th.

The deserter that came in yesterday, says, that on the night of the 16th, he was among the number that helped to erect the sand bag work, and from the accounts in the *Spanish* camp there was about eleven

1782. August. thousand men employed to effect it, that had we fired towards the eastern shore, the greatest part must have been cut off.

29th. The crews of the men of war and other shipping in *New Mole* are landed, and employed in bringing their stores on shore. The seamen are in good spirits, and swear bitterly against the Dons.—This little reinforcement will be of great service to us. The enemy fire brisk on the land side.

30th. GARRISON ORDERS.

"*The officers and crews of His Majesty's ships being landed, are to be encamped at Europa, and to form the Marine Brigade. Captain Curtis commanding His Majesty's ships in the Mediterranean is appointed to serve as Brigadier General.*"

You would smile to view the tars handling their firelocks, and marching full accoutred, the boatswain's pipe all hands aloft,—brace the yards, tacks and sheets, &c. are no longer heard,—the glittering beauties of the parade engage the attention, while whistling winds, and roaring billows are forgotten. Thus military equipped they long for battle, to perform their evolutions and manœuvres, which on a parade might excite laughter, but 'midst blazing cannon, and clouds of smoke, every awkward appearance will be hid—If they prime and load expeditiously, it is all that will be required, nor will they need to reft, shoulder, or poise.

I remain,

Dear brother,

Affectionately yours.

P. S. Inclosed are the copies of two letters, said to be written by the *Duke de Crillon*, and his Excellency *General Elliott*, on the 19th and 20th instant, I hope you will find as equal a satisfaction in the perusal as I have done.

Camp of Buenaviſta, Auguſt 19, 1782.

SIR,

HIS Royal Highneſs *Comte d'Artois*, who has received permiſſion from the King, his Brother, to aſſiſt at the Siege as a Volunteer in the combined Army, of which their moſt Chriſtian and Catholic Majeſties, have honoured me with the command, arrived in this Camp the 15th inſtant. This young Prince has been pleaſed in paſſing through *Madrid*, to take charge of ſome letters, which had been ſent to that capital from this, and which are addreſſed to perſons belonging to your garriſon—his Royal Highneſs has deſired that I would tranſmit them to you, and that to this mark of his goodneſs and attention, I ſhould add the ſtrongeſt expreſſions of eſteem for your perſon and character; I feel the greater pleaſure in giving this mark of condeſcenſion in this auguſt Prince, as it furniſhes me with a pretext, which I have been anxiouſly looking for theſe two months, that I have been in this camp, to aſſure you of the high eſteem I have conceived for your Excellency, of the immenſe deſire I feel of deſerving yours, and of the pleaſure to which I look forward of becoming

1781. August. becoming your friend, after I shall have learnt to render myself worthy of the honor of facing you as an enemy. His Highness the *Duke de Bourbon*, who arrived here twenty-four hours after *Comte d'Artois*, desires also that I should assure you of his particular esteem.

Permit me dear General to offer you a few little trifles for your table, of which I am sure you must stand in need, as I know you live entirely upon vegetables, I should be glad to know what kind you like best. I shall add a few patridges, for the Gentlemen of your houshold, and some rie, which I presume will not be disagreeable in the excessive heat of this climate, at this season of the year—I hope you will be obliging enough to accept the small present I send with this letter. I have the honor to be, &c.

His Excellency General Eliott, &c.

GIBRALTAR, AUG. 20.

SIR,

I FIND myself highly honored by your obliging letter of yesterday, in which your Excellency was so kind as to inform me of the arrival in your camp of his Royal Highness the Comte *d'Artois*, and the Duke *de Bourbon*, to serve as volunteers at the siege. These Princes have shewn their judgment in making choice of a master in the Art of War, whose abilities cannot fail to make great Warriors. I am really overwhelmed with the condescension of his Royal Highness, in suffering some letters for persons in this Town to be conveyed

conveyed from *Madrid* in his Carriages. I flatter myself that your Excellency will give my most profound respects to His Royal Highness, and the *Duke de Bourbon*, for the expressions of esteem with which they have been pleased to honor so insignificant a person as I am.

I return a thousand thanks to your Excellency for your handsome present of fruits, vegetables, and game, you will excuse me however I trust, when I assure you, that in accepting your present, I have broken through a resolution, which I had faithfully kept since the beginning of the war, and that was never to receive, or procure by any means whatever, any provisions or other commodity for my own private use, so that without any preference, every thing is sold publicly here, and the private Soldier (if he has money) can become a purchaser as soon as the Governor. I confess I make it a point of honor to partake both of plenty and scarcity, in common with my brave fellow Soldiers, this furnishes me with an excuse for the liberty I now take of intreating your Excellency not to heap any more favours on me of this kind, as in future I cannot convert your presents to my own private use. Indeed to be plain with your Excellency, though vegetables at this season are scarce with us, every one has got a quantity proportioned to the labour he has bestowed in raising them—the *English* are naturally fond of gardening and cultivation, and here we find our amusement in it, during the intervals of rest from public duty.

The

1782. August. The promise which the *Duke de Crillon* makes to honor me, in proper time and place, with his friendship, lays me under infinite obligations—the interests of our Sovereigns being once solidly settled, I shall with eagerness embrace the first opportunity, to avail myself of so precious a treasure.

I have the honor to be, &c.

His Excellency Duke de Crillon, &c.

LETTER XXXVI.

GIBRALTAR.

DEAR BROTHER,

Sept. 1. THE action has not yet taken place, though every day adds fresh convincing proofs of a speedy termination. The enemy strenuously exert themselves both by land and sea, they have hauled out five of their floating batteries in a line with the first, having bent their sails, and otherwise rigged them. On the isthmus is a battery almost within pistol shot, sufficient of itself

To frighten a whole legion of infernals,
When told they must withstand its mighty foamings.

In the camp of *Santa Roque*, is an army of fifty-thousand

thousand men, not worn out with the heavy toils of war, but healthful and vigorous, while our garrison deprived of all nourishment, and almost as feeble as old age for want of succour, can muster very few more than five thousand men and boys, including sick, wounded, and disabled, to repulse the efforts of such a superior force, 1782. Septem.

But as we're actors——*Europe* the spectators,
I trust we shall perform in this great cause,
As men determined to maintain the right
Of *George* our King, and *Britain's* fame and welfare.
Although the foe have made a heft'ring boast,
That each discharge from land and sea we'll find,
Two thousand shot and shells from guns and mortars;
Will constantly be show'ring on the garrison.

Wind E. Two *French* line of battle ships, which seemingly stood for the westward came into *Algaziras*, on a frigate's speaking to them. 3d.

The enemy's naval force now stands thus.——Nine ships of the line, three frigates, four xebecs, eight gallies, two cutters, one *French* ship twenty guns, nine floating batteries complete, one ditto almost finished, one bomb ketch, about one hundred gun and mortar boats, beside boats for landing troops.

The enemy have been assiduously employed in mounting guns in their sixty-four gun battery—We have kept almost an incessant fire from the rock gun upon it, but it being so thick covered over with sand, the shot make very little penetration. An additional field officer is 6th.

1782. Septem. ordered to take poſt in the lines, and a reinforcement to the *New Mole* guard. The *Corſican* company that were embodied Auguſt 4th, are ordered for duty to-morrow. Every one that is able to fire a muſquet, or carry a ſhot, muſt take poſt upon any alarm. The tenth floating battery is rooſed, and they have begun to rig her—a few days more and then we ſhall fall to it *ding dong*.

7th. Three of the floating batteries looſed their ſails, and got under way, they proceeded to the *Orange Grove*, and were near three hours in performing their paſſage notwithſtanding they had a favourable wind: They appear to be very heavy and ill-going veſſels—I ſuppoſe there was not a perſpective in the garriſon but what was employed in the examination of their form and rigging.

GARRISON ORDERS.

"*The marine brigade to take Europa advance, and Little-bay guards to-morrow.*"

Reinforcements are ordered likewiſe to *Prince's-lines*, *Landport*, *Waterport*, *Main* and *Ragged-ſtaff* guards.

8th. This morning Lieutenant-General *Boyde* took poſt on grand battery, having the command of all the batteries, and the neceſſary arrangements being made from the rock gun to the *Old Mole head*, we began a furious cannonade of red hot balls upon the enemy's *Mahon* battery, (mounted with ſix pieces of ordnance) and other lines of approach, together with a ſupply of ſhells and carcaſſes—The moſt intoxicating joy gained poſ-

ſeſſion

session of the soldiery, and every heart and hand was chearfully employed, and while gazing crouds who had taken post upon *Andaluſia's* hills, beheld the vollies of deſtruction that flew in ſhowers, and the ſad effects that were productive of the red flaming balls, our men rejoiced and made a paſtime of the dire employ. The foe withſtood our fire with intrepidity until moſt of their works and thirteen gun battery next the bay, were blazing in ſeveral places, and ſtrewed over with mangled limbs and dead bodies. Several parties appeared upon their glacis, and in an undaunted manner tore up the faſcines—Some kept pouring of baſkets of ſand upon the parts that were on fire, and others running to the ſea for buckets of water. Thus they ſtood, while ſhowers of balls fell on every ſide, and many were obſerved to be knocked off the works. I aſſure you it was a horrid ſcene of ſlaughter, and the enemy were conſtrained to ceaſe their cannonade to ſave the remainder of their men. The fire continued in this ſpirited manner from ſeven till near one o'clock, during which we had ſeveral killed and wounded, among whom are Lieutenant *Boag* of the Royal Artillery, and Enſign *Gordon*, of the 58th regiment, but not mortally. The battery which mounted thirteen pieces of cannon was entirely conſumed. 1782. Septem.

This morning between four and five o'clock, the enemy opened their ſixty-four and other batteries (amounting to about one hundred and thirty pieces of cannon and eighty mortars) with the greateſt ſpirit upon the garriſon, which we immediately anſwered— 9th.

Their

1782. Sept. 19. Their ſixty-four gun battery was an inceſſant volley the whole time, which laſted moſt of the day, and the diſtance being ſo ſhort, their ſhot reached the walls almoſt as ſoon as you perceived the flaſh; ſo quick was the diſcharge that the balls rolled along the ſtreets by dozens; this was by way of retaliation, for the unexpected compliment we paid them yeſterday. Lieutenant *Wharton*, of the 73d regiment and ſeveral men wounded. The enemy remove their floating batteries to the *Orange Grove* as faſt as they get them ready—there are two of them that have not got their ſails bent.

Wind E. Their line of battle ſhips, nine in number, viz. ſeven *Spaniſh* and two *French*, accompanied by a xebec and frigate; ſtretched over in a line from the *Orange Grove* this forenoon, and fired upon the garriſon until they paſſed *Europa*, when they tacked again and returned firing the ſame way, they then ſtood to the oppoſite ſide, where they lay with their ſails looſe until near ſun-ſet, when they again ſtretched over, and under a gentle ſail directed their fire on the ſouthward, in the ſame manner as before, continuing their courſe to the eaſtward, at which time their gun-boats came over, and rowed in a line under the *King's Baſtion*, and began a fire, but our batteries gave them ſuch a ſmart reception, that they found it convenient to withdraw. The 97th regiment which landed laſt March, are ordered to do duty.

20th. About one o'clock this morning, the nine line of battle ſhips returned from the eaſtward, and fired upon *Europa*

Europa and the southward encampments: They continued a brisk cannonade until they came near the *King's Bastion*, when they stood over to the *Orange Grove* and anchored—several seamen at *Europa* and others, were wounded thereby. They repeated this manœuvre again this forenoon, but they having been frequently struck by our shot, they have come to an anchor on their own side, where we observe two of them repairing. From the land side they also maintain a brisk cannonade, and their sixty-four gun battery represents an entire blaze——It is apprehended that we shall suffer considerably from this work. 1782. Septem.

Between nine and ten o'clock this evening, the enemy advanced to *Boy-side*, and set fire to the Pallisadoes at that place, which burnt very freely for some time, when one of them again advanced, observing it rather decaying, and put fresh fire to those that were not consumed, notwithstanding the guards in the lines and at the advanced posts, discharged their musquetry upon him: The gun and mortar boats came over at the same time, and poured in a brisk salute of shells and shot for above two hours—Some few killed and wounded upon the occasion. 11th.

This morning we perceived a great part of the pallisadoes burnt down, sufficient to admit eight men abreast.—From this circumstance we imagine they will not be long before they make the assault. From the isthmus and forts they keep a constant fire, and this morning as I came off *Landport Guard*, crossing the *Esplanade*, 12th.

1782. Sept. *Eſplanade*, I obſerved a ſoldier before me, laying on the ground, and his head ſomewhat raiſed, and ſupported on his elbows; I ran to him, (imagining the man had life, and lifted him up, when ſuch a ſight was diſplayed to my view, that I think I never ſhall forget—a twenty-ſix pound ball had gone through his body, and his entrails as they hung out from the orifice were of a moſt diſagreeable reſemblance; whether it was from the force of the ball, or their natural colour, I cannot pretend to determine——The ſhot from the enemy was dropping on every ſide, and as I found his life was gone, I left him on the ſame ſpot, and made the beſt of my way to the ſouthward.——A party of men buried him ſoon afterwards. The floating batteries at the *Orange Grove* have been taking in ſtores, &c. yeſterday and to-day. The other two have alſo arrived there.

Several boats have been brought out of the rivers to the *Orange Grove*; ſome of them ſeem to have a kind of a cover, which we ſuppoſe is to ſhelter them from our muſquetry, when they come near the ſhore. The wind being weſterly, we ſhall expect the junk ſhips to embrace this opportunity. The enemy have erected ſtands or booths around the ſhore, lined with crimſon or ſcarlet, where the nobles and grandees will take their ſeats.

A report is juſt circulated that a fleet are obſerved in the gut——we hope it is the *Britiſh* coming to our relief——every one ſeems impatient to diſcover their colours:

lours: A gentleman who has been taking a view fays they are *French* and *Spaniſh* men of war; if ſo our fate is inevitable. 1782. Septem.

The fleet are now diſtinguiſhable by the naked eye, they are ſhips of force, under *French* and *Spaniſh* colours, ſtanding for the bay. The garriſon are greatly agitated and diſappointed in their expectations. Will you believe me Brother, there is forty-four ſail of the line, excluſive of the nine already on the ſtation, who are now anchoring between *Algeziras* and the *Orange Grove*. If we can withſtand this force we may bid defiance to all the world.

This afternoon the gun and mortar boats came daringly on, as much as to ſay, "*Ye dogs ſurrender*," but luckily a ſhot ſtruck one of them, when ſhe diſappeared——the reſt ſoon afterwards retired. Major *Lewis* of the Royal Artillery, was wounded this day.

A reinforcement is ordered to *Queen's lines* and to the different picquets, nine of which are to take poſt in town.

That our enemies may be defeated is the ſincere and hearty wiſh of

Your loving Brother.

LETTER

LETTER XXXVII.

GIBRALTAR.

Seven o'clock in the morning.

DEAR BROTHER,

1786. Sept. 13. TO Arms! to Arms! is all the cry——the enemy's floating batteries have weighed anchor, and are now under sail with a fine breeze at N. W. Their colours wanton in the wind with gaudy decorations for the battle, while thousands of spectators from yon glittering shore, impatient wait to triumph in their downfall. They have now tacked with their heads towards the garrison, and what is remarkable, they work them without a man being exposed or seen.

• • • • • • •

Half past Nine o'Clock.

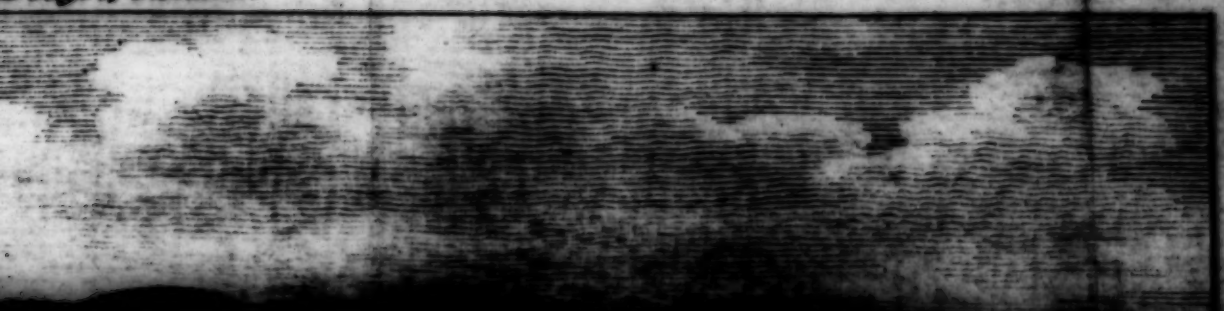
The floating batteries have just brought too, between the *Old Mole* and *South Bastion*, within eight hundred

yards

Engraved for Annalli Siege of Gibra

Representation of the 10 Floating Batteries Commanded by Admiral D

...ll's Siege of Gibraltar.



...dmiral Don Morena, attacking Gibraltar, on the ...

yards of the walls, a very bold manœuvre——adieu! Victory or Death will crown our cauſe——The garriſon have begun firing upon them——the bay and rock cannot be deſcribed by words. 1782. Septem.

* * * * * *

Half paſt Eleven at Night.

Tired and fatigued I ſit down to let you know that the battle is our own, and that we have ſet the enemy's ſhips on fire. When they came on at nine o'clock this morning, they proceeded ſucceſſively to their different ſtations, and as they moored began to fire with the utmoſt vivacity; at the ſame time we began a diſcharge of cold ſhot upon them, but to our great aſtoniſhment we found they rebounded from their ſides and roofs, even a thirteen inch ſhell would not penetrate one! however we were not much diſheartened, although we had ſeveral killed, but with all poſſible ſpeed we kindled fires in our furnaces, and put in our pills of thirty-two pound weight to *roaſt*. If you could have peeped over the rock, and viewed our ſeveral employs, you could not have forbore ſmiling; ſome ſtationed to work the guns like Ethiopians black by rubbing their faces with their hands dirtied with powder——the ſons

1782. Septem. of Vulcan were blowing and ſweating, while others were allotted to carry the blazing balls, on an iron inſtrument made for that purpoſe, but as theſe did not afford a ſufficient ſupply for the batteries, wheel-barrows were procured fill'd with ſand, and half a dozen ſhot thrown into each. The fire was returned on our part without intermiſſion, and equally maintained by the foe, but the continual diſcharge of red hot balls, kept up by us, was ſuch, as rendered all the precautions taken by the enemy in the conſtruction of the *flotantes* of no effect, for the balls lodging in their ſides, in length of time ſpread the fire throughout——This we found to be the caſe repeatedly during the day, though the foe frequently kept it under, but a continuance of the ſame inconvenience, rendered it impoſſible at laſt to work their guns. Juſt at the cloſe of day-light, we obſerved one of the largeſt to be on fire in ſeveral places, and ſoon after another in the ſame condition. This gave the troops additional courage, and the fire was redoubled upon the remaining eight. The *Spaniſh* land batteries co-operated with a view of dividing our attention, and to flank the different batteries that were pouring their diſcharges on the Junk ſhips, but this did not effectually accompliſh their deſigns, as the ordnance mounted on the heights of *Willis's*, &c. ſupported a hot cannonade upon their works, which tended to abate their fire. We had the inconſiderable loſs of Capt. *Reeves* of the Royal Artillery, killed; Captain *Grove Seward*, and Lieutenant *Godfrey* of ditto; Lieutenant *Witham* of 58th, and Captain *Alexander M'Kenzie* of 73d regiments, wounded, beſide ſeveral non-commiſſioned officers and men killed and wounded. What

What with the heat of the day, the forges, furnaces, and piles of flaming shot, amidst clouds of smoak and sulphur, accompanied with heavy toil, you may judge we found ourselves very feeble and thirsty, and in this situation a drink of water which was all the allowance could scarce be procured. An * Officer (who commanded a battery) observing the men at the guns almost exhausted with drought, he chearfully took a keg, (which holds about a pail) went to the fountain, filled it with water and brought it through the enemy's fire to the men on the battery. 1782. Sept. 13

One o'clock in the morning.

The floating batteries have ceased firing, and one of them has just broke out in flames, the hands on board them are throwing rockets as signals for assistance—Captain *Curtis* with a body of seamen, has just arrived at the *New Mole*, to man our gun boats to prevent the enemy from escaping.——A report is now received that an officer and eleven men were drove on shore, upon a piece of timber, being part of a floating castle that was sunk by a shell from the garrison, as she was steering to co-operate with the *flotantes*.

Day break.

Our bay appears a scene of horror and conflagration, the foe are bewailing their perilous situation, whilst our gun-boats are busily employed in saving the unhappy victims, from surrounding flames and threatening death, although 14th.

* Lieutenant Galpin of 72d. Regiment.

1782. Sept. 13. although the enemy from their land batteries inhumanly discharged their ordnance upon our tars to prevent their affording them relief. But never was bravery more conspicuous, for notwithstanding the eminent dangers which were to be apprehended from so daring an enterprize, yet our boats rowed along side of the floating batteries, (though the flames rushed out of their port holes) and dragged the sufferers from their deplorable state—the contempt paid by the *British* tars to the enemy's fire, of round and grape shot, and shells, will ever do honor to *Old England*.——Our gun boats have been chasing two of the enemy's small craft, who had left the floating batteries, but have only captured one.

To hear the lamentation of the crews,
The groans, the cries, that through the flames resound,
Imploring our assistance from the danger,
Of fire and water——ready to devour;
Words are too weak to give a just description!
One of their ships blew up with dreadful noise,
While *Curtis* grappled to her scorching sides,
The blazing beams, the masts, the yards and cartridges,
In the explosion scatter'd in the air,
And cover'd o'er the sea with foaming wreck.

Seven o'Clock.

The enemy's ships are blowing up one after another quite full of men, and our boats having staid as long as possible, they are now returning with a body of prisoners.

soners. A remarkable instance of [illegible] I cannot help mentioning——A young boy [illegible] one of the floating batteries, (which was almost [illegible] blaze,) observing our boats making for shore, [illegible] upon the head, wept and cry'd, and in the *Spanish* tongue called for help; his intreaties prevailed, and one of our boats notwithstanding the immense danger which threatened, rowed towards him, (which he perceiving, jumped into the sea, and at that very instant the ship exploded, with the greatest part of the hands on board——The boat soon after took the boy up. 1782. Sept. 14.

Eight o'Clock.

Captain *Curtis* is arrived at *New Mole*, with about four hundred prisoners including officers, some of them miserably wounded and scorched, the boat that he was in, overset in the explosion of the first floating battery, by which his coxswain was lost. As the *Spanish* officers came past a furnace at the *New Mole*, in which there was about one hundred red-hot balls, and some of them melted with the excessive heat, they shrugged their shoulders and gave a piteous groan at what their eyes beheld.

Our seamen are bringing the trophies of victory on shore, one has just landed with the Royal Standard of *Spain*, which was intended by the foe to be hoisted on these battlements. The hills and heights were covered with spectators, when the tars began their procession, incessant shouts and repeated acclamations continued from the *Mole* to the *South parade*, where the

Governor

1782. Sept. 14. Governor and principal officers were congratulating each other on the occasion, to whom they carried the colours, which sensibly pleased our gallant chief who joined the crowd in three cheers, and presented the tars with some gold as a reward.

Each heart and soul's inflam'd with highest pleasure,
To view *Iberia's* ensigns in our hands;
While every *Briton* crowds around the standard,
To prize the grand display of glorious conquest.
Some smile——then view——caress——admire——
shake hands,
And with a heart-felt zeal, recount the battle;
King George and victory re-echoes round,
While *Andalusia's* shore weeps at the sound.

Nine o'Clock.

The prisoners are by a guard landed, and escorted to *Wind-Mill-Hill*, except the wounded who were conducted to the *Naval Hospital*, where every care and tenderness will be shewn them—some of them really were most horrid spectacles, one in particular I cannot help mentioning who was carried by four men on a handbarrow,—He had received a wound on his face, so that his nose and eyes were separated from his head, hanging by a piece of skin, and the motion of the men that carried him, occasioned its flapping backwards and forwards much resembling a mask, though he must have felt the most sensible agony, yet he looked round him with great complacency, as he passed the numerous crowds of People.

Ten

Ten o'Clock. 1782. Sept. 14.

The floating batteries have not all exploded—One of them has almoſt burnt to the waters edge, the crew having thrown the powder overboard. The enemy's land batteries maintain their cannonade upon the garriſon, ſpitting forth their venom'd rage, while on the oppoſite ſhore confuſion and conſternation viſibly appears. The Nobles and Grandees who had aſſembled to view the capture of the place are withdrawing from the *Spaniſh* camp, to carry the direful news to *Philip*'s court, who impatient waits to hear the expected joyful tidings, but what will be his ſurprize when he hears that the all *victorious impregnable flotantees* are loſt, and that flaming balls effected their ruin.

It muſt be a galling vexation to our foes, to behold their Royal Standard diſplayed upon our *South Parade* —whose it is tyed to a gun and reverſed.

Four o'Clock in the afternoon.

The laſt battery has juſt exploded off the *Old Mole Head*; our red hot ſhot had not fired her, and it being found impracticable to warp her in here, it was judged expedient to detach a boat to ſet her in flames, which accordingly they effected without any injury from the land batteries. Thoſe formidable machines, the admiration of *Spain*, and in whoſe atchievements centred all their pride, are no longer dreadful, nor appear with threatening aſpect.

While Princes, Dukes, and Grandees on yon hills,
Behold the ſad effects of our hot pills;

Morna

* *Moreno* in convulsion fits was thrown,
His junk ships burnt—his promis'd honor's flown.
‖ *Cordova* with his fleet mour'd in the bay,
Ne'er wish'd against the *British* walls to lay.
The ‡ *Prince of Nassau*, who was sent to seize,
And from brave Gen'ral *Elliott* take the keys;
'Midst disappointment, rage, and dire disgust,
Renoune'd his glory and the service curst.

The enemy during the day extinguished the fire, by the assistance of engines, which supplied them with a vast quantity of water, but the continual and excessive discharge of red-hot balls, intirely frustrated their purpose, and they were constrained to desist from the use of water, as it was found that the battering they had received, opened the caulking, and let the water run between their decks, instead of the channels that were made in their sides to receive it, so that they were apprehensive of their powder being damaged. The construction of these machines was excellent, for the enemy being sensible that we should fire red-hot balls, (though they did not imagine so fast, nor unless the gun was elevated) had judiciously contrived conveyances in the larboard sides for continual circulation of water, which was furnished by working of the engines. From the nicest calculation the floating batteries received upwards of five thousand red-hot balls of twenty-four and thirty-two pounds weight.

The

* The Admiral commanding the floatatteries.
‖ The Spanish Admiral commanding the combined fleet.
‡ A Prince of the Blood.

The inclosed are copies of returns, wherein you will find the ſtrength of the garriſon, the names of the *ſlotantes* and their ſtrength, with the number of priſoners ſaved by our boats; and ſince victory has crowned our arms, with ſatisfaction I conclude, (being impatient for you to hear the account) and beg leave to ſubſcribe myſelf, 1782. Septem.

Your loving Brother.

List of the Battering Ships, deſtroyed by Red-hot Shot, September 13th and 14th, 1782.

	Guns.	Men.
Paſtora, Admiral Don Morena, ——	28	700
Talla Piedra, Prince of Naſſau, ——	28	700
St. Franciſco de Paula, 1ſt. Don Langara,	26	700
Roſario, Don Franciſco Munoz, ——	26	700
St. Chriſtoval, Don Frederico Gravina,	18	600
St. Franciſco de Paula, 2d D. Pablo la Coſa,	9	366
Sta. Ana, Don Joſeph Angeler, ——	10	350
Sta. Juan, Don Franciſco Guicochea,	10	400
Principe Carlos, Don Joſeph Topete,	11	400
Declores, Don Antonio Baſſorto, ——	6	280
Total	172	5196

1782. September 13th. Prisoners taken by Captain *Curtis* from the Battering Ships.

Sea Officers,	3
Land Officers,	3
Cadets,	2
Chaplains,	3
Surgeon,	1
Sergeants, Corporals and Privates	216
Artillerists, Land 2, Sea 5,	7
Marines,	30
Seamen,	81
French Soldiers,	11
Total	357

Strength of the Garrison, Rank and File, 13th September, 1782.

Royal Artillery,	494
12th	458
39th	452
56th	457
58th	447
72d	793
73d	778
97th	639
Hardenberg's	344
Reden's	337
La Mott's	348
Artificer Company	84
Corficans	72
Total	5703

LETTER XXXVIII.

GIBRALTAR. 1782. Septem. 15th.

DEAR BROTHER,

YEsterday evening the enemy marched down a considerable body of troops to their lines, and the combined fleet having loosed some of their sails, we expected to have another attack, but the Dons did not shew any inclination to renew the sport.

The fleet remains at anchor, and I trust should they come on, we shall exhibit another illumination in the bay. They keep a fire upon us from the isthmus and other batteries——some few wounded, among whom is Lieutenant *M'Namara* of the seventy-second regiment. We sent a flag of truce to the enemy.

I cannot omit enclosing you a copy of a poem, I wrote on the destruction of the enemy's battering ships, which received the governor's approbation and acknowledgment.

1782. Septem.

On * *Calpe's* mount where num'rous batt'ries rise,
And tow'ring bulwarks seem to reach the skies;
Great *Eliott* lives, whom cannon loud proclaim,
Adorn'd with laurels and with matchless fame:
Where *Albion's* sons! immortaliz'd in war,
Repuls'd the foe and fill'd their host with fear.
Whom eighteen months against these walls have laid,
With hect'ring boast, and pompous proud parade;
Whom *Eliott* taught to rev'rence *Britain's* fame,
And stamp'd with shot and shells *King George's* name!

September twelfth, the combin'd fleet appear'd,
To *Negro-point* and *Algaziras* steer'd.
With such a pow'rful force they thought to fright,
But hardy *Britons* gloried in the fight;
With longing eyes we view'd them from our walls,
And wish'd to let them taste our *red hot balls*.

On the thirteenth their batt'ring ships set sail,
Wind West North West, it blew a pleasant gale;
Past nine they moor'd, and then began to play,
Within half cannon shot—these *hasters lay*:
We mann'd our batteries with chearful glee,
Resolv'd to die or boldly dare be free:
The *God of war* with aspect mild appear'd,
He bless'd our cause, and ev'ry soldier chear'd.

Our *vet'ran chief*, took post on *King's Bastion*,
Amidst the battle chearful and serene;

Triumphant

* The Rock was so named when the Spaniards had it in possession.

Triumphant led the troops to the contest,
When smiling—thus the regiments he addrest:
" Courage my soldiers—'tis for *Britain's* right,
" And for your glorious sov'reign you fight;
" Unto your guns and mortars chearful go,
" And show's destruction flaming on the foe;

Thus animated we their force despis'd,
Began a stubborn fight, and dangers priz'd:
Unto their posts, each hasted with delight,
And strove who should be foremost in the fight;
While Gen'ral *Boyde*, *Britannia's* steady friend,
The *South Bastion* with courage did defend;
Howitzers, *guns*, and *mortars* stunn'd their ears,
Made *Monsieurs* tremble, fill'd the Dons with fears;
Red flaming balls, like bell'wing *Etna* threw,
And death in diff'rent shapes unto them flew.
The sons of Vulcan nimbly fires got,
And soon prepar'd huge piles of *red hot shot*;
For fourteen hours they with us did contend,
At one next morn the battle it did end;
A more delightful view was ne'er display'd,
Than when the ships were with bright flames array'd,
The pride the haughty boast of *France* and *Spain*,
With dazz'ling light adorn'd the briny main;

Amidst the melancholy scenes of grief,
They rockets threw, the signals for relief:
But *Spain*, inhuman no assistance gave,
Nor sent a boat the sev'ral crews to save;
From fire consuming, or a wat'ry grave,

And

And when our * Commodore undaunted steer'd,
Through flames and death which all around appear'd;
To give the suffering foe his tender aid,
Their land batteries began a cannonade:
Some wring their hands, some wept with streaming eyes,
Some rent the cloudy air with dismal cries;
While he still'd on, the scorching heat defy'd,
And one exploded while he lay 'long side:
Six thousand men that came on this command,
Some few—a very few escap'd to land,
Four hundred only were brought to our shore;
Who did our pity and our help implore,
Those who escap'd unto the *Spanish* coast,
There mourn'd their ill success and wept their boast,
While hundreds in the flames and sea were lost,
And with th'explosion into atoms tost.

Much thanks are due to officers and men,
Whose merit dictates and commands my pen,
'Twould tedious be to mark their names and praise,
Nor dare the muse to touch the pleasing lays.

May valiant *Elliott* ever be renown'd,
With laurels from *Britannia*'s hand be crown'd;
May *Boyle* the veteran and his tar-hat fair,
By King and country never be forgot:
From age to age extolled be their fame,
And wrote in golden characters their name.

The

* Capt. Curtis, of the Brilliant.

The combined fleet still continue at anchor, and the enemy's batteries on the land side cannot forget their usual employ. This afternoon the grenadier company of thirty-ninth regiment, escorted the body of a deceased *Spanish* captain (who died of the wounds he received on the thirteenth) to the place of interment, and fired three vollies over the grave. Yesterday we received a flag of truce from *Spain*. 1780. Sept. 18.

The enemy are quiet in the bay, and their boats for landing troops still remain at the *Orange Grove*—several men wounded by the land fire. 20th.

Wind W. Arrived a cutter at *Algaziras*—several of the *Spanish* officers have been permitted to return to *Spain*. 23d

Very hot fire on both sides—a gun was dismounted this forenoon in the *Spanish* sixty-four gun battery, by a shot from the garrison. Our loss this day is, one man killed and nine wounded—Major *Horsfall* of the seventy-second regiment, received a wound by the explosion of a shell. Yesterday a criminal was executed at the usual place, for a burglary. 26th.

Wind W. The *Spanish* towers this morning displayed several colours, when the garrison attentively watched the gut, expecting the arrival of our fleet, but to our regret only some neutrals appeared. Received a flag of truce from the *Orange Grove*. 30th.

The enemy's gun and mortar boats came over and fired Oct. 1.

fired their usual quantity of shot and shells and then retired.——The garrison played very smartly upon them.

4th. A frigate came over from the opposite side this morning, under a flag of truce, and lay opposite the *Old Mole Head*, upon which a boat was detached to receive her—The particulars are not known. The enemy continue their cannonade.

6th. A flag of truce from the enemy. Twelve settees arrived from the East at *Algeziras*.

8th. Two *Spanish* launches, under a white flag, came over for the purpose of taking up an anchor left by the frigate off the *Old Mole Head* on the 4th instant, the Governor having given permission for the same. The combined fleet have not made any signal to sail, but remain spectators of the land cannonade, which is maintained on both sides. All the *Spanish* prisoners are gone to *Spain*.

10th. This afternoon a body of troops embarked from the *Orange Grove* on board the men of war, from which we conjecture they are tired of the expedition, and are going to remove to some more successful part. Several signals on the tower at *Gabritta*.

11th. Last night wind N. W. A strong breeze sprung up, drove several of the enemy's line of battle ships from their moorings, which occasioned a general confusion among the combined fleet; at day break this morning

morning, we discovered one nearly under the *King's* 1782.
bastion, and several others within cannon shot. The *King's* October.
bastion began a cannonade upon her, when she finding it impossible to bear off, struck her colours, and ran ashore off *Ragged-staff*, where Captain *Curtis* went, and took possession of her, and brought the crew to land. She proves to be the *San Miguel* of 70 guns and six hundred and fifty men——The others with some damage and difficulty got anchorage on the opposite side. The prisoners give an account that our fleet is off the coast, and that the troops which embarked yesterday, were a reinforcement to the different ships, as they lay upon a spring cable, determined to obstruct the entrance of the *British* squadron. We hope the storm has not been prejudicial to our fleet, as they were so near the coast, for our fate will be determined, if a relief for the place should be obstructed—Many are of opinion that had the storm continued with the same violence an hour longer, we should have been in possession almost of one half of their fleet.

The tower at *Calvitta* has spread the signal alarm, but the combined fleet have not shewn any inclination to go out, three of the enemy's ships we fired at this morning, have struck their topmasts. Our batteries have been firing shells these three hours, upon a ship of the line at anchor on this side *Fort Negro*, who could not remove from her anchorage, (where necessity had compelled her to moor) on account of the violent breeze, we could not observe to have done any damage to her.

1782. Oct. 11. Wind W. An *English* frigate arrived this evening in *Rosia bay*, with dispatches for the governor, and gives the account that our fleet consists of thirty-four sail of the line, and a reinforcement of two regiments for the garrison. We rather fear the superiority of our opponents will prove prejudicial to them—God grant they may get safe in.

12th. The *British* fleet under the command of Lord *Howe* have sailed to the eastward where they are now lying too. It is supposed this experienced Admiral chooses to have sea room rather than run the hazard of the *Spanish* fire-ships, which they have in readiness to run in. Came in the *Panther* of sixty-four guns, reported to be laden with powder.

The enemy's fleet still occupy the opposite side, seven of their ships are repairing the damages they received in the late storm.

GARRISON ORDERS.

"*The Governor is extremely happy to communicate to the Garrison, the following instructions he has just received from England.*

"*Extract from the Earl of* Shelburne *principal Secretary of State.*

"*St. James's, 10th July, 1782.*

"*I am honoured with His Majesty's commands to assure you, that not any encouragement shall be wanting to the brave officers and soldiers under your command. His Royal approbation of the past will no doubt be a power-*

ful

ful incentive to further exertions, and I hope the King's 13th Oct. 1782.
authority to assure you, that every distinguished mark of emulation and gallantry, which shall be performed in the course of the siege by any, even of the lowest rank, shall meet with ample reward from his gracious protection and favour.

"These, his Majesty's intentions, you will communicate in the most public manner, to every part of your garrison, that they may be perfectly satisfied, that their Royal Master feels for the difficulties they are under, admires their glorious resistance, and will be happy to reward their merit."

Lord *Howe*'s squadron are still to the eastward, 14th. within sight of the garrison, and the combined fleet at anchor at *Algiziras*. The shipping that were damaged in the storm are not yet repaired. The guns and stores of the *San Miquel* have been taken out, to make her float.

GARRISON ORDERS.

A vigorous fire kept up on both sides, but all quiet 15th. in the bay. We had one officer killed, viz. Lieutenant *Lumley*, of the royal artillery, and many men wounded.

This forenoon a frigate came round *Europa Point*, 16th. with a red flag upon her fore-top-mast head, and fired a gun to windward, as a signal of defiance; upon which the combined fleet got under weigh, and went out, consisting of forty-five sail of the line. The garrison were greatly delighted; and those whose duty

1782. 08. 16. did not confine them to one place, repaired to the heighths and look-outs, to view the engagement, but the two fleets in a ſhort time were out of ſight.—Reports were then circulated that the diſcharge of cannon was heard, and others that the flaſh of guns was ſeen. One of the enemy's ſhips, that came near the rock, was fired at by the garriſon and *Panther*, but did not receive any material damage. The *Panther* ſailed to the eaſtward. Captain *Curtis* and the Governor's aid-de-camp are on board her.

18th. Wind eaſt. This forenoon we diſcovered the *Britiſh* fleet ſtanding from the eaſtward, in good order, having got the windward, and the combined fleet in full chace. An anxiety was diſcernable in every countenance, and the [illegible]nence was lined with ſpectators, who gazed with eager eyes on both fleets, expecting every minute the battle to begin.—The gratification of their wiſhes could not be obtained, as Lord *Howe*'s ſquadron was too inferior to engage the enemy, while he could poſſibly avoid it. He therefore ſent in the men of war (who had the 25th and 59th regiments on board) and the tranſports with proviſion and ſtores, but as ſoon as theſe two regiments were received by the boats, the men of war immediately joined the ſquadron, and proceeded through the gut in three diviſions, the enemy following them at about a league diſtance.—A ſenſible uneaſineſs now prevailed for the ſafety of the *Britiſh* ſquadron; for although we had received a relief both of men and proviſions, yet the ſituation of Lord *Howe* engaged too much our attention

tention, to leave room to congratulate each other on the happiness of receiving supplies; however, after both fleets were out of sight, we began to turn our eyes to our own affairs, and to listen to the adventures of our late arrived friends.—They say that two of our transports fell in among the combined fleet, in the night, and were captured; but that to the eastward of the rock the fleets had not shewn any inclination to come to action. Oct. 18.

The bay on the opposite side is almost defenceless, and *Algaziras* that has of late been the grand rendezvous for shipping, has lost all its glory—The land cannonade is kept up with great vivacity, but it appears to be a piece of folly for the besiegers still to continue the siege. We shall fight like game cocks now. Sir *Charles Noels* succeeds Captain *Curtis* as Commodore on this station.——Our shipping that were scuttled in the *New Mole*, being got up, the seamen are returning again to their usual employ, military evolutions being no longer necessary for them. 19th.

The gun and mortar boats visited us, but without effecting any considerable damage. Some regiments have marched out of the camp of *St. Roque*. It is expected that the hearty dose we have given them, has greatly lowered their ambition, and constrained them to direct their attention to some other place. A criminal was executed this day. Yesterday was wounded Lieut. *John M'Kenzie*, of the 73d regiment. Nov. 4.

The 25th and 50th regiments that arrived here the 18th of *October*, are put on the duty strength, which

will

Nov. 28th. will be a relief to the garrison. The *San Miguel* is in *New Mole*, where the enemy's mortar boats have endeavoured to damage her.——Yesterday they fired several rounds, but without effect.

29th. Wind W. Arrived a xebec at *Algaziras*, the enemy's shipping lay very quiet viewing our rattling batteries. It is amazing that the *Spaniards* are not tired of bombarding the place, as they cannot have any hope of taking it.

Dec. 1st. The gun and mortar boats came over and fired at the *San Miguel*, several shells fell in the *New Mole* and about the *Mole Parade*——some few wounded.

2d. The enemy's fire-ships are gone into the rivers, but the boats for landing troops remain at the *Orange Grove*. The encampment on the right of *Fort Negro* has been struck some time, and the troops marched away. In all probability they have given over the thought of another attack. The land fire is continued with great spirit, by which we have many men wounded.

5th. The gun and mortar boats came into the bay and fired particularly about the *New Mole*, supposed to be intended for the *San Miguel*, it is a matter that vexes them to behold her in our possession, and for this reason they are constantly endeavouring to destroy her.——A shell some time past fell into her and exploded, but did not do her any other damage than splitting some of her timber.

Wind

Wind S. E. A xebec and a galley standing from the eastward, having come pretty near *Europa*, we discharged three shot at them, one went through the rigging of the xebec, but was not observed to do any other damage. 1780. Dec. 24

Wind W. Arrived a brig in nineteen days from *Deptford*.—The enemy did not offer to interrupt her. Nothing material in the bay. 27th.

This afternoon the enemy's gun and mortar boats arranged in two divisions began a cannonade and bombardment upon the garrison; Sir *Charles Neal* immediately manned our gun boats, and headed them into the bay, where a spirited fire was kept up for upwards of two hours. The batteries on the isthmus and lines kept pouring in a liberal discharge at the same time. The enemy threw many shells and shot up here. 25th.

On the sea side we are only now and then interrupted, but the land batteries keep constantly roaring. We in compliance return the favor, nor are we any ways deficient in number. This year has finished with glorious success on our side, in gallantly repulsing our combined and determined enemies; and should they think proper to pay another visit, I hope our arms will prove equally victorious. May the new year be propitious, and establish a permanent tranquility, that we may partake of the blessings of providence, from which we have been upwards of three years deprived. 31st.

I am, dear Brother,

Yours, &c.

LETTER XXXIX.

GIBRALTAR.

Dear BROTHER,

1783. Jan. 1. THE new year has began much the same as the laſt finiſhed, volleys of ſhot and ſhells hourly diſcharged from the *Spaniſh* works. The enemy have renewed their former vigilance in the bay, and yeſterday detached a few cruizers both eaſtward and weſtward. Lieut. *Holloway* of the Engineers received a wound on the batteries.

5th. Wind W. This forenoon a ſignal was made on the tower at *Cabritta*, and two gallies went out from *Algeziras*, a ſail appeared under the *Barbary* ſhore, but after two ſhot being fired at her, ſhe ſurrendered to the Dons.—She was but a ſmall ſettee. The gun and mortar boats viſited us but did not do any damage. A hot cannonade is kept up by land.

18th. This being the anniverſary of Her Majeſty's birth day, the Royal Standard was hoiſted and a ſalvo fired at the enemy's works with ſhot, which occaſioned a briſk and ſpirited return from all the *Spaniſh* batteries. The naval force are quiet in the bay.

25th. Nothing extraordinary in the *Spaniſh* camp, or oppoſite ſhore. Wind E. Laſt night arrived here a ſettee

lee from *Tetuan* with poultry, the price of which is greatly enhanced. They bring word that the Court of *Spain*, are greatly diſſatisfied and diſguſted with the length and ill ſucceſs of the Siege. This forenoon a ſoldier was hanged at the uſual place of execution, and died with little emption. 1783. January.

The *Spaniſh* gun and mortar boats continue their unprecedented firing upon us, they diſcharged (under a briſk cannonade from our batteries) about two hundred rounds and then retired, ſome few wounded on the occaſion. The land fire does not abate. 26th.

Sailed a xebec from *Algaziras* to the eaſtward, having ſeveral ſettees under convoy. The gun and mortar boats ſaluted the ſouth from the bay. Second Lieutenant *Angelo Raffalie* of the *Corſican* company was wounded. 29th.

This day has brought us joyful news, which at firſt we could ſcarce believe. A flag of truce came over from the *Orange Grove*, with *Duke de Crillon's* compliments mentioning he had the greateſt reaſon to believe that a ceſſation of hoſtilities, had taken place—the garriſon enraptured with the ſound, ſpread the harmonious tidings, and about eleven at night all firing ceaſon our ſide, agreeable to an order ſent by His Excellency the Governor, to the diffe ent poſts. The enemy's cannonade became ſilent in the afternoon. Feb. 2.

I ſcarce know where to begin upon a ſubject, ſo truly intereſting and captivating. Our ſituation is 3d.

1783. February changed from noiſe and confuſion, to calm ſerenity, the air that was continually diſturbed with flames and ſmoke, is no longer darkened; the ſtars that were eclipſed now ſhine with their wonted ſplendor, and the divine rays of *Aurora*, once again adorns each hill and height, that have for theſe eighteen months paſt have only been diſtinguiſhable by the flaſhing of pieces of ordnance—Our transformation from War to Peace, and the tranquility that preſides over the battered rock and the *Andaluſian* ſhore, ſo forcibly affects all ranks, that to endeavour to give you the delineation, would be a taſk for an able pen. The power of oratory, the moſt perſuaſive eloquence, would fall ſhort, in ſufficiently deſcribing our happineſs and amazement—Would you believe that laſt night, every poſt appeared ſolitary, by the ſilence which every where prevailed, and the hours of ſlumber ſeemed uneaſy, for want of that martial noiſe, with which our days and nights have been ſo long accuſtomed to.

I muſt now proceed to give you ſome account, concerning the effect upon our long reſolute and determined antagoniſts, who ſeem ſenſibly to ſhare in the bleſſings of Peace—They in crowds this morning appeared upon their works, ſhewing every demonſtration of the moſt heart-felt ſatisfaction, ſending forth in rapture unfeigned congratulations—the thundering cannon that ſo often have ſpread death around, have now ceaſed their rage—the long wiſhed-for ſound of peace, reechoes from ſhore to ſhore, from hill to hill, from rock to rock, and every tongue is filled with the bliſsful

melody

melody——The *Spaniſh* officers came underneath our lines, bowing to the Guards, aſſuring them in the moſt ſolemn manner, that an amicable peace had actually taken place. In every corner greeting crowds are ſeen, and the moſt inexpreſſible pleaſure, both within and without the walls, is by all ranks diſplayed. 1783. February

Our Governor has not made any reducement in the guards, not knowing how far the ſtratagems of war might operate, but waits until the royal declaration arrives from *England*, when every teſtimonial will be made as a thankſgiving to our great Creator for the invaluable and ineſtimable bleſſing, and ſince tranquility is re-eſtabliſhed, I with pleaſure conclude the ſequel of my itinerary (ſubjoining the following Poem on the occaſion) and hope in a ſhort time perſonally to aſſure you, that,

I am, Dear Brother,

Affectionately and ſincerely yours.

A POEM, on the Reſtoration of Peace.

IN grateful ſtrains permit the humble Muſe,
To ſpread around the captivating news,
To tell the dangers of our long conteſt,
To tell how peace once more our iſles has bleſt,
To tell in ſpite of *Spain* our glory lives,
And *Elliott* and his garriſon ſurvives;
To tell how on the battlements he ſtood,
And fought and ſuffer'd for his country's good;
With ſweet compoſure—animating ſmiles,
He chear'd our hardſhips—and repaid our toils;
Two years he brav'd a num'rous heſt'ring foe,
Who meditated long our overthrow;
By ſea and land their cannon did employ,
And ev'ry means that could the place annoy;
With fireſhips—batt'ring ſhips of war they ſent,
And all that ſtudied miſchief could invent;
But *George* and *Britain's* Sons! true heroes bold,
Repell'd their views and all their arts controul'd:

But now from painful toils and loud alarms,
And from the din of war and claſhing arms;
From piercing cries and horrid ſcenes of blood,
That deluged the batt'ries in a flood;
A ſweet ceſſation to our woes takes place,
And ſpreads a tranquil joy in ev'ry face;

As

As from the angry black tempestuous skies,
The storm abates and bids *Aurora* rise;
Thus we from mis'ry and succeeding pain,
From watchings—labour—and from mangled slain,
Receive an earnest for our past employ,
And ev'ry bosom feels the promis'd joy;
The sound of Peace—re-echoes all around,
And ev'ry tongue repeats the joyful sound;
Enraptur'd with the thoughts again to see,
The clifts of *Albion* were each man is free,
To clasp each friend long absent from our breast,
And lull each anxious care to tranquil rest.

The month of February second day,
While we with shot and shell did briskly play,
A flag of truce from *Negro-point* did steer,
Before our walls with Peace she did appear,
In *Duke de Crillon's* name—admittance gains,
While on our batt'ries a silence reigns,
Each vet'ran fill'd with projects to destroy,
Now feels the impulse of devouring joy;
The hand just lifted to spread death around,
Swift drops the match at the amazing sound,
And gaze upon the foe before the walls,
Who long have been the object of our balls.

Next morning when *Aurora* bright appear'd,
Whose smiles made glad the earth—all nature chear'd,
Whose radient splendid rays bid slumber rise,
And streaks with ruddy gold, the glorious skies,
When feather'd songsters tune their warbling throats,
And prais'd their maker in melodious notes,

When

When honeſt lab'rers to their toils repair,
Amidſt content and free from anxious care;
When vice retires from the exceſs of night,
And bluſhes at the dawning of the light,
'Twas then that we beheld with vaſt amaze,
Our num'rous foes who from their works did gaze,
And hail'd the garriſon in loud huzzas,
Like blythſome, ſportive kids they ſkipt and danc'd,
And ſome towards our batteries advanc'd,
In broken *Engliſh*—ſtrong vociferation,
Nam'd Peace with *Spain*, *France*, and the *Britiſh* nation.
Their mirth and joyful cheers did ſo increaſe,
The rock reſounded with the promis'd Peace.

The women freed from danger and from fear,
In lowly cots, they ſpread their homely fare,
And circulate the bowl each heart to chear.
Now loyal toaſts in ſatisfaction paſs,
And ſweet content adorns the feſtive glaſs;
Fair Peace ſits preſident in ev'ry face,
And warriors wear her with becoming grace,
What news! a comrade to his friend doth cry,
The happieſt news—a Peace—he doth reply;
A third he wiſpers if I may believe,
Supplies of beef and wine we ſhall receive,
A fourth rejoins to *England* we ſhall ſteer,
And ſoon again partake of *Britiſh* cheer.

But here the author of theſe feeble lays,
Indulgence begs to give a word of praiſe,

Of

Of *Eliott* whom immortal fame will crown,
With never fading laurels and renown;
And valiant *Boyde*, who took an active part,
Will meet th'encomiums of each gen'rous heart.

When on the *Britiſh* ſhore theſe chiefs ſhall land,
Return'd from battle and the hoſtile band;
The ſons of freedom, will applaud their feats,
While ev'ry loyal breaſt with rapture beats;
Our gracious King will meet with open arms,
The heroes who withſtood impetuous ſtorms;
And greeting crowds with half devouring eyes,
Will gaze on whom dread Kings and Emp'rors prize,
And as they paſs with acclamations ſing—
Theſe vet'rans bravely fought for *George* our *King*.

MEMORANDUMS.

1779.

June 21. The communication shut.

Sept. 22. The garrison commenced cannonading the enemy.

1780.

Jan. 23. Admiral *Rodney's* fleet arrived.

June 7. Nine of the enemy's fire-ships destroyed before the garrison.

1781.

April 12. Admiral *Darby's* fleet arrived, and the Siege commenced.

Nov. 27. The enemy's mill mortar battery destroyed by a sortie from the garrison.

1782.

Sept. 8. The enemy's *Maiden* battery destroyed by hot shot from the garrison.

—— 9. The enemy opened all their batteries, and a new 64 gun battery.

—— 12. The combined fleet came in.

—— 13. Ten battering ships anchored before the garrison.

—— 14. Destroyed by red-hot shot, and blew up alternately.

Oct. 11. The *San Miguel* a *Spanish* 70 gun ship, captured by the garrison—same day Lord *Howe's* fleet appeared.

1783.

Feb. 2. Received the first account from *Duke de Crillon*, of a treaty of peace—The same night the firing ceased on both sides.

Mar. 10. Sir *Roger Curtis* arrived in the *Thetis* frigate, with the preliminary Articles of Peace, and a Ribbon the Order of the Bath for His Excellency General *George Augustus Eliott*.

Return of the KILLED and WOUNDED in the undermentioned REGIMENTS,

From the 12th of APRIL, 1781, the day the Bombardment commenced, to the 3d of FEBRUARY, 1783.

Regiments.	Killed.				Wounded.				Died of wounds				Recovered of wounds			
	Officers	Sergeants	Drummers	Rank & File	Officers	Sergeants	Drummers	Rank & File	Officers	Sergeants	Drummers	Rank & File	Officers	Sergeants	Drummers	Rank & File
Royal Artil.	2	1	0	24	8	4	1	126	0	0	0	7	8	4	1	119
12	1	3	1	13	3	4	7	109	0	0	0	9	3	4	7	100
25	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	8	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	7
39	1	5	1	15	4	5	1	71	1	1	0	5	3	4	1	66
56	0	2	1	16	4	3	0	72	0	1	0	8	4	2	0	64
58	1	1	0	17	2	3	3	73	0	0	0	4	2	3	3	69
59	0	0	0	2	0	0	1	18	0	0	0	4	0	0	1	14
72	0	2	0	35	3	15	1	178	0	2	0	18	3	13	1	160
73	0	0	0	38	6	7	2	125	0	1	0	17	6	6	1	108
97	0	0	0	7	0	4	2	51	0	0	1	6	0	4	1	45
Reden's	0	2	0	7	1	1	0	44	0	0	0	4	1	1	0	40
La Motte	0	1	0	16	0	3	0	46	0	0	0	6	0	3	0	42
Sydow's	0	2	0	9	1	7	0	55	0	0	0	5	1	7	0	50
Artificers	0	1	0	6	3	3	0	26	0	0	0	0	3	3	0	26
Marine Brig.	0	1	0	2	0	2	0	9	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	8
Corsicans	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
Total	5	19	3	193	36	62	17	1013	1	6	1	95	35	56	16	928

Return of the enemy's firing againſt the Garriſon.

From their Land Batteries	Shot	Shells	Total
1782, from 12th April, to 31ſt Dec.	200842	29196	230038
1783, from 1ſt Jan. to 31ſt Dec.	73792	38139	111931
1783, from 1ſt Jan. to 3d Feb.	1122	825	1947
Total Land fire	275755	68360	344115
Fired from their gun and mortar Boats	6775	7498	14273
Total	282530	75858	358388

Expended by the Garriſon from 12th September 1779, to 3d February, 1783.

	Bomb	lb.	oz.
Powder,	7652	260	25

Shells	29,370
Shot	57,160
Carpe	22,684
Carcaſſes	916
Light balls	689
Total	200,829

Gibraltar, 23d April, 1783.

The Garrison being drawn up, conformable to the Orders for this Day, General *Eliott* addressed the Troops in the following Manner, previous to his being invested with the Order of the Bath.

GENTLEMEN,

I HAVE assembled you this day, in order that the Officers and Soldiers may receive, in the most public manner, an authentic declaration transmitted to me by the Secretary of State, expressing the high sense His Majesty entertains of your meritorious conduct in the defence of this Garrison.

" The King's satisfaction upon this event was soon divulged to all the world, by his most gracious Speech to both Houses of Parliament.

" The house of Lords, and the house of Commons; not only made the suitable professions in their address to the Throne, but have severally enjoined me to communicate their unanimous thanks by the following resolutions.

(The Letters of thanks from the Lords and Commons being read (which as you have seen in the paper I shall omit inserting) the Governor re-assumed his Speech as follows)

" No army has ever been rewarded by higher national honours, and it is well known how great, universal, and spontaneous were the rejoicings throughout the kingdom, upon the news of your success;——These

must not only give you inexpreſſible pleaſure, but afford matter of triumph to your deareſt friends and lateſt poſterity. As a further proof how juſt your title is to ſuch flattering diſtinction at home, reſt aſſured from undoubted authority, that the nations in *Europe*, and other parts are ſtruck with admiration of your gallant behaviour, even our late reſolute, and determined antagoniſts, do not ſcruple to beſtow the commendations due to ſuch valour and perſeverance.

"I now moſt warmly congratulate you on theſe unitqd and brilliant teſtimonies of approbation; amidſt ſuch numerous, ſuch exalted tokens of applauſe, forgive me, faithful companions, if I humbly crave your acceptance of my grateful acknowledgments.

"I only preſume to aſk this favour, as having been a conſtant witneſs of your ſubmiſſion to the greateſt hardſhips—your matchleſs ſpirit and exertions, and on all occaſions your heroic contempt of every danger."

Estimate of the various articles, and their average prices, during the blockade and siege of Gibraltar, from 21st June, 1779, to 3d February, 1783. Exchange at 39d the dollar, being the average upon the whole.

	Gibraltan. dls. rls. qs.	Eng. sterl. l. s. d.
Veal per pound	1 4 0	0 4 10½
A calve's head and feet	10 4 0	1 14 1½
A calve's pluck	4 4 0	0 14 7½
Mutton per pound	1 4 0	0 4 10½
A sheep's 5th & hind q. sold for	48 0 0	7 10 0
A sheep's head and feet	4 4 0	0 14 7½
A sheep's pluck	2 4 0	0 8 1½
Beef per pound	1 4 0	0 4 10½
Bullocks head without tongue	7 4 0	1 3 4½
A bullocks tongue	2 4 0	0 8 1½
Bullocks liver per lb.	0 3 0	0 1 3
Fresh tripe per lb.	1 0 0	0 3 3
Salt Beef per lb.	0 3 0	0 1 3
Salt pork per lb.	0 3 0	0 1 3
Fresh pork per lb.	1 0 0	0 3 3
A hog's pluck	4 4 0	0 14 7½
Goat per lb.	1 2 0	0 4 1
A goat's pluck	2 0 0	0 6 6
A goat's head	1 4 0	0 8 1½
A turkey	15 0 0	2 8 9
A goose	9 0 0	1 10 4
A couple of ducks	6 6 0	1 1 11½
A pair of fowls	6 6 0	1 1 11½
A pair of pigeons	3 0 0	0 9 9
Flour per lb.	0 3 0	0 1 3
Bread per lb.	0 4 0	0 1 7½
Salt butter per lb.	1 4 0	0 4 10½
Cheese per lb.	1 4 0	0 4 10½
Rice per lb.	0 3 0	0 1 3
Loaf sugar per lb.	5 2 0	0 17 1
Tea per lb.	14 0 0	2 5 6
Common candles per lb.	0 6 0	0 2 5
A hen's egg	0 1 8	0 0 1½
A pint of milk	0 3 0	0 1 3
Potatoes per lb.	0 6 0	0 2 5½
Onions per lb.	0 6 0	0 2 5½

A short History *and* Description of GIBRALTAR.

THE first name by which this mountain was known was that of *Mons Calpe*, and it continued to be so called till the incursions of the *Arabs* in the year 713. It is not my intention to explore the dark history of this famous rock; it is buried in obscurity, or involved in doubt. Historians say that it was possessed by the *Scithians* at the first settlement of that country. When the all-conquering *Romans* reduced *Iberia*, this mountain afforded a temporary asylum to the *Barbicans*; but their resistance was vain, and a *Roman* settlement was made to the west of *Calpe*, which bore the name of *Julia Traducta*. The *Carthaginians* seized on all *Bætica*, but it was recovered by *Lucius Licinius Lucullus*, and *Calpe* remained in the possession of the *Romans* until they were ultimately driven out of all *Spain* by the *Westrogoths* in 568. A domestic quarrel introduced the *Arabs* into *Spain* in the year 713. The mountain then obtained the name of *Jibal Tarik*, or *Tarik's Mountain*, *Tarik* being the chief under whom the incursion was made; this is declared to be the origin of the name which by corruption of sound and orthography, is now *Gibraltar*.

It is undergone no fewer than thirteen sieges.

In 1310 *Alonzo Perez de Guzman* first took it from the *Infidels*, which so enraged them, that they murdered their King, *Mahomet*.

The

The second siege was in 1316, when *Ismael*, King of *Granada*, in vain attempted to retake it.

The third commenced in February 1332, under *Abumelique*, when the *Spaniards*, after enduring almost intolerable fatigue, and subsisting for weeks on the leather of their shields, were starved into a surrender in the middle of June.

The fourth siege was begun by *Don Alonzo* XI. in the end of the same month, he having been within four days march of the place on its surrender. This investment was attended with uncommon circumstances of hardship, both to the besieged and besiegers: The latter were blocked up in the neck of *Gibraltar* by the King of *Granada* and *Abumelique*, who marched with an army to the relief of the garrison. At last, on the 20th of August a peace was concluded, and the siege was raised.

Don *Alonzo* again set down before it in the summer, 1349, and during this, which was the fifth siege, and which continued for nine months, the garrison was reduced to great straits. But Don *Alonzo* was carried off by the plague in March, 1350.

The Emperors of *Fez* neglecting their *Spanish* territories, *Yusef*, third king of *Granada*, took it in 1410. This was the fifth siege, but the next year the inhabitants drove out the conquerors, and put themselves under the protection of *Muley Beald*, Emperor of *Fez*.

Yusef

Jusaf beſieged it in form the January following with a fleet and army, and the garriſon was ſtarved into a ſurrender. This was the ſeventh ſiege.

The eighth ſiege was in 1438, when Don *Enique de Guzman* attacked it with a ſtrong force, but was defeated by the Moors, and drowned. His ſon, however, brought off the remains of his army.

In 1462, the ſon returned with greater force, and took the place, which ever ſince has remained in poſſeſſion of the Chriſtians. This was the ninth ſiege.

The tenth was in 1704, when it was torn from the *Spaniards* by the *Engliſh*, under the command of Sir *George Rooke*. Upon this occaſion the conqueſt was particularly aſcribed to the ſeamen, whoſe irregular enterprize hurried them to ſeveral poſts which commanded the garriſon, and which brought the enemy to ſurrender.

The *Spaniards* were ſorely hurt with the loſs of this moſt important ſtation. They knew its conſequence, and, added to the value conferred by its ſtrength and ſituation, the circumſtance of giving to an ancient enemy ſuch a footing in the kingdom, was a mortification which the proud ſpirit of the *Spaniards* could not bear. An expedition was immediately formed, and the eleventh ſiege commenced under the Marquis de *Villadarias*. The ſiegé laſted four months; and finding all their efforts, though vigorous, were vain, it was abandoned in 1705.

Great

Great Britain, fully ſenſible of its importance, hath maintained it at an immenſe coſt, and hath taken ſuch advantage of its natural powers in diſpoſing the works that have been raiſed, as to make it indubitable the ſtrongeſt fortification in the univerſe. *Spain* has obſerved this conduct with unavailing regret. The recovery of this poſt has at one time given them ſubject for declaring a war, and at another has been claimed as the price of peace. They ceded it at the peace of *Utrecht* without grace, for they ſtipulated for a right of pre-exemption in caſe *Great Britain* ſhould diſpoſe of it. Many negociations were opened; many offers of purchaſe, and of places to be exchanged for it; but all were fruitleſs. The *Engliſh* nation were juſtly jealous of the treaſure, and if at one time miniſters were diſpoſed or were cajoled to ſquander it by negociation, the bargain was prevented by the vigilance of parliament, and the ſpirit of the people. It was made the ſubject of warm diſcuſſion in the Lower Houſe in the year 1727. Theſe ſecret manœuvres proving abortive, the *Spaniards* ſat down before *Gibraltar* on the 15th of February in 1727; but this which was the 12th ſiege, and under the conduct of the Marquis de la *Torres* was like the former, ſpirited and fruitleſs.

The thirteenth ſiege was begun in 1779, and continued inceſſantly until 1783, a period of almoſt four years. On the firſt inveſtment Admiral *Don Barcello* blocked the port by ſea, and General *Don Juan de Mendoza*, cut of the communication by land, but the commanders alternately ſucceeded during the progreſſion of the ſiege. The garriſon have by their perſeverance

presented to *Europe* a picture of the most gallant defence. They have resisted the efforts of the most numerous and best-equipped band of besiegers, that, perhaps, ever beset any fortress. The *Spaniards* have bent every endeavour to this single object. They have starved their marine, and neglected their power in every other quarter of the globe, that they might employ all their resources, and direct all their attention to this great end. Their works have been immence, their industry indefatigable. They have endeavoured to accomplish its reduction by the constancy of their attack; by their numbers they have been able to make their operations incessant, that the garrison might have no relaxation from fatigue, no opportunity for repose. All their struggles, however, have been vain. The garrison was annually relieved with provisions, though the want of store-houses, tended greatly to render it uneatable,—and when they rushed on confident of victory, had the glory to gain immortal renown, by repulsing so superior a force, under the immediate eye of the principal personages, nobles, and grandees of *Spain*, who had assembled to view the capture of the important fortress.

MEMOIRS *of the* LIFE *and* MILITARY SERVICES *of* General Sir GEORGE AUGUSTUS ELIOTT.

SIR *George Auguſtus Eliott*, the brave and gallant defender of *Gibraltar*, is the ſon of the late Sir *Gilbert Eliott* of *Stobbs*, in *Roxburyſhire*. The ancient and honourable family of *Eliott* of *Stobbs*, as well as the collateral branch of *Eliott* of *Minto* in the ſame county, and of *Eliott* of *Port Eliott*, in *Cornwall*, are originally from *Normandy*. Their anceſtor, Mr. *Aliott*, came over with *William* the Conqueror, and held a diſtinguiſhed rank in his army. There is a traditionary anecdote in the family relating to an honourable diſtinction in their coat, which, as it correſponds with hiſtory, bears the appearance of truth. When *William* ſet foot on the *Engliſh* land, he ſlipped and fell on the earth. He ſprang up again and exclaimed, that it was a happy omen—he had embraced the country of which he was to become the Lord. Upon this *Aliott* drew his ſword, and ſwore by the honour of a ſoldier, that he would maintain, at the hazard of his blood, the right of his Lord to the ſovereignty of the earth which he had embraced. On the event of conqueſt, King *William* added to the arms of *Aliott*, which was a baton or, on a field azure, and the arm and ſword, as a creſt, with the motto, *per ſaxa, per ignes, fortiter, et recte*. We mention this as a curious fact, delivered down and recorded as a memorial of their antiquity.

Sir *Gilbert Eliott*, of *Stobbs*, had nine ſons and two daughters. The preſent Gen. *Eliott* was the youngeſt

ſon, and he is now the only ſurviving one. His eldeſt brother, Sir *John Eliott*, left the title and eſtate to his ſon, the preſent Sir *Francis Eliott*, who is therefore nephew to the General.

Sir *George Augustus Eliott* was born about the year 1718, and received the firſt rudiments of his education under a private tutor retained at the family ſeat. At an early age he was ſent to the Univerſity of *Leyden*, where he made a rapid progreſs in claſſical learning, and ſpoke with elegance and fluency the *German* and *French* languages. Being deſigned for a military life, he was ſent from thence to the celebrated *Ecole Royale de genie militaire*, at *La Fere* in *Picardy*. This ſchool was rendered the moſt famous in *Europe* by means of the great *Vauban*, under whom it was conducted. It is *now* under the management and care of the Comte *d'Hervoille*. Here it was that the foundation was laid of that knowledge of tactics in all its branches, and particularly in the arts of engineering and fortification, which has ſo greatly diſtinguiſhed this officer ſince. He compleated his military courſe on the continent by a tour, for the purpoſe of ſeeing in practice what he had been ſtudying in theory. *Pruſſia* was the model for diſcipline, and he continued for ſome time as a volunteer in that ſervice. Such were the ſteps taken by the young men of faſhion in that day to accompliſh themſelves for the ſervice of their country.—Many of his cotemporaries were then firmly engaged, nobly abandoning the enjoyments of eaſe and luxury at home, for the opportunity of ſeeing actual ſervice.

Mr.

Mr. *Eliott* returned, in the 17th year of his age, to his native country of *Scotland*, and was, in the same year, 1735, introduced by his father, Sir *Gilbert*, to Lieut. Col. *Peers*, of the 23d regiment of foot, or *Royal Welch Fuzileers*, then lying in *Edinburgh*. Sir *Gilbert* presented him a youth anxious to bear arms for his King and country. He was accordingly entered as a volunteer in that regiment, and continued for a twelve month or more. At this time he gave a promise of his future military talents, and shewed that he was at least a soldier *au cœur*. From the 23d he went into the engineer corps at *Woolwich*, and made great progress in that study, until his uncle, Colonel *Eliott*, brought him in as Adjutant of the second troop of horse grenadiers.—In this situation he conducted himself with the most exemplary attention, and laid the foundation of that discipline which has rendered those two troops the finest corps of heavy cavalry in *Europe*, the *Honoverian* body guards, and the musketeers of *France* not excepted. With those troops he went upon service to *Germany*, in the war before last, and was with them in a variety of actions. At the battle of *Dettingen* he was wounded. In this corps he first bought the rank of Captain and Major, and afterwards purchased the Lieutenant Colonelcy from Col. *Brewerton*, who succeeded his uncle. On arriving at this rank he resigned his commission as an engineer, which he had enjoyed along with his other rank, and in which service he had been actively employed very much to the advantage of his country. He had received the instructions of the famous Engineer *Belidor*, and made himself completely

compleatly master of the science of gunnery. Had he not disinterestedly resigned his rank in the engineer department, he would now, by regular progression have been at the head of that corps.—Soon after this he was appointed Aid-du-camp to King GEORGE II. and was already distinguished for his military skill and discipline. In the year 1759 he quitted the second troop of horse grenadier guards, being selected to raise, form, and discipline the first regiment of light horse, called after him *Eliott's*. As soon as they were raised and formed, he was appointed to the command of the cavalry in the expedition on the coasts of *France*, with the rank of Brigadier General. After this he passed into *Germany*, where he was employed on the staff, and greatly distinguished himself in a variety of movements, while his regiment displayed a strictness of discipline, activity, and enterprize, which gained them signal honour; and indeed they have been the pattern regiment, both in regard to discipline and appointment, to the many light dragoon troops that have, since that period, been raised in our service. From *Germany* he was recalled for the purpose of being employed as second in command in the memorable expedition against *Havannah*. It was possible to find an object in sunshine of the Court to whom, under the patronage of a Prince, the trappings of the chief command might be given; but an *Eliott* was wanted to act, as well as an *Albemarle* to shine, and for him they were forced to go to the dusty plains of *Germany*. The circumstances of that conquest are well known. It seems as if our brave veteran had always in his eye the gallant *Lewis de Velasco*,

Vasa, who maintained his ſtation to the laſt extremity, and when his garriſon were flying from his ſide, or falling at his feet, diſdained to call for quarter, but fell gloriouſly exerciſing his ſword upon his conquerors.

Our readers will pardon us for the recital of a ſhort anecdote, which occurred immediately after the reduction, as it ſhews, that in the very heat and outrages of war, the General was not unmindful of the rights of humanity. He was particularly eminent among the conquerors of the *Havannah*, for his diſintereſted procedure, and for checking the horrors of indiſcriminate plunder. To him, therefore, appeals were moſt frequently made. A *Frenchman*, who had ſuffered greatly by the depredations of the ſoldiery, made application to him, and begged, in bad *Engliſh*, that he would interfere to have his property reſtored. The petitioners wife, who was preſent, a woman of great ſpirit, was angry at the huſband for his intereſſion, and ſaid, "Comment pouvéz vous demander du grace à un homme qui vient vous depouiller? N'en eſperez pas." The huſband perſiſting in his application, his wife grew more loud in the cenſure, and ſaid, "vous n'etes pas "Francois!" The General, who was buſy writing at the time, turned to the woman, and ſaid, ſmiling, "Madame ne vous, echauffez pas, ce que votre mari "demande lui ſera accorde!" "Oh faut-il pour ſur-"croit de malheur," exclaimed the woman, "que le "barbare parle le Francois." The General was ſo very much pleaſed with the woman's ſpirit, that he not only procured them their property again, but alſo took

pains

point to accommodate them in every reſpect. This has been through life the manly characteriſtic of the General—if he would not ſuffer his troops to extend for the ſake of plunder, (the ravages of war) however impoveriſhed them by unjuſt exactions. He never would conſent that his Quarter maſter's place ſhould be ſold, "not only, ſays he, becauſe I think it the "reward of an honeſt veteran ſoldier—but alſo, becauſe "I could not ſo directly exerciſe my authority in his "diſmiſſion, ſhould he behave ill."

On the peace, his gallant regiment was reviewed by his Majeſty in *Hyde-park*—when they preſented to the King the ſtandards which they had taken from the enemy. The King gratified with their high character, aſked Gen. *Elliot*, what mark of his favour he could beſtow on his regiment equal to their merits. He anſwered, that his regiment would be proud if his Majeſty ſhould think that by their ſervices they were entitled to the diſtinction of *Royals*. It was accordingly made a Royal Regiment, with this flattering title, *The 15th, or* KING'S *Royal Regiment of Light Dragoons*. At the ſame time the King expreſſed a deſire to confer a mark of his favour on the brave General; but he declared, that the honour and ſatisfaction of his Majeſty's approbation of his ſervices was his beſt reward.

During the peace he was not idle. His great talents in the curious branches of the military art, gave him ample employment; and in the year 1775, he was appointed to ſucceed Gen. *A'Court* as commander in Chief

Chief of the forces in *Ireland*. But he did not continue long on this ſtation; not even long enough to unpack all his trunks; for finding that interferences were made by petty authority derogatory to himſelf, he refuſed the practice with becoming ſpirit, and not chuſing to diſturb the government of that ſiſter kingdom, on a matter perſonal to himſelf, he ſolicited to be recalled, and accordingly was ſo, when he was appointed to the command of *Gibraltar*, in a fortunate hour for the ſafety of that important fortreſs. The ſyſtem of his life, as well as his education, peculiarly qualified him for this truſt. He is, perhaps, the moſt abſtemious man of the age. His food is vegetables, and his drink water. He neither indulges himſelf in animal food nor wine. He never ſleeps more than four hours at a time; ſo that he is up later and earlier than moſt other men. He has ſo inured himſelf to habits of hardineſs, that the things which are difficult and painful to other men, are to him his daily practice, and are rendered pleaſant by uſe. It could not be eaſy to ſurprize ſuch a man into a ſurrender, nor eaſy to ſtarve him. His wants are eaſily ſupplied, and his [illegible] beyond precedent. The example of the Commander in Chief in a beſieged garriſon, has a moſt powerful efficacy in forming the manners of the ſoldiery. Before him his brave followers came to regulate their lives by the moſt ſtrict rules of diſcipline before there aroſe a neceſſity for ſo doing; and ſevere exerciſe, with ſhort diet, became habitual to them by their own choice. The military ſyſtem of diſcipline which he introduced, and the preparations he made for his defence, were

contrived with so much judgment, and executed with so much address, that he has been able with a handful of men to preserve his post against an attack, the constancy of which, even without the vigour, has been sufficient to exhaust any set of men. Collected within himself, he has in no instance destroyed by premature attacks, the labour which would cost the enemy time, patience, and expence to complete; he has never spent his ammunition in useless parade, or in unimportant attacks. He has never relaxed from his discipline by the appearance of security, nor hazarded the lives of his garrison by wild experiments. By a cool and temperate demeanor he had maintained his station for four years of constant investment, in which all the powers of *Spain* were employed. All the eyes of *Europe* have been on his garrison, and his conduct has justly exalted him to a most elevated place in the military annals of the present day.

The General married a sister of the present Sir *Francis Drake*, and by her has had a son and a daughter. The son is now Lieut. Col. of the Inniskilling regiment of dragoons, and the daughter is married to Mr. *Fuller*, of *Boyly Park*, in *Sussex*. His lady died about fourteen years ago, and her loss the General has not yet ceased to lament. The General is now about his sixty-fifth year, but his temperate living has preserved to him his looks with great freshness, for which see the plate.

FINIS.

ERRATA.

Page 53, line 11, for with, *read* with.
Page 55, line 3, for hard, *read* hardy.
Page 61, line 6, for five higher, *read* five feet higher.
Page 64, line 18, at the word "battery" add a parenthesis, after which let follow the words, "several yards," then *read* instead of "but without succefs" thus, "we fired many shells but without succefs."
Page 65, line 13, for coincide, *read* coincidence.
Page 104, line 27, for affidiously, *read* affiduously.
From page 152, an erratta in the folio to the end.
Page 148, line 17, for unce, *read* hence.
Page 177, line 17, for Britain, *read* Briton.
Page 211, line 12, for pouring of baskets of sand, *read* pouring baskets of sand.
Page 231, line 3, for company of thirty-ninth, *read* company of the thirty-ninth.
Page 240, line 11, for after *read* after.
Page 255, line 13, for neck, *read* neck.

M

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A.

MR. John Addiſon, *Lancaſter.*
Richard Atkinſon, *ditto.*
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Henry Abram, *ditto.*
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Spencer Abbot, *Lancaſter.*
—— Atkinſon, Attorney at Law, *ditto.*
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Laurence Clarke, *ditto.*
Thomas Cowlthwaite, *ditto.*
James Collinſon, *ditto.*
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George Fletcher, *ditto.*
Edward Fayner, *ditto.*
Thomas Fisher, *ditto.*
James Fenton, Esq; Recorder of *Lancaster*
Rev. James Fenton, *Stalmin.*
Rev. Robert Fletcher, Rector of *Hatton.*

The Sing[illegible]
erater